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[WITH TWO SUPPLEMENTS, 1s.]

THE WAR DEBATES.

THE Queen's Speech on the opening of Parliament, and the debates that ensued upon it in both Houses, will ring trumpet-toned throughout Europe. They are pitched in the right key, to invigorate our troops, to inspire our friends in every country with fresh courage, to strengthen the Governments that may still be wavering, and to strike terror in the councils of the Czar. It has been long evident that the heart of the nation was in the great war which it has undertaken. The debates of Tuesday night will demonstrate to all the world that in this respect the British people and its Parliament are in unison. The same sympathy animates us all. The people and the Legislature, the Sovereign and the Government, are inspired by the same feeling of reliance upon the justice of our cause, and of confidence in the heroism of our fleets and armies.

The subject is twofold, and includes in the first place the policy;—in the second the conduct, of the war. On the first point there can scarcely be said to be a difference of opinion in the British Isles, unless we seek it among a clique of bigots and theorists, who consider war in a righteous cause to be a greater evil than the sacrifice of honour and the loss of independence. But, happily, such men are but units among millions—drops of dirty water in the great ocean of popular enthusiasm. As yet they have found no voice in the British Parliament, and will, it is to be hoped, exercise the smaller virtue of discreet silence, if they cannot raise themselves to the height of their countrymen, and participate in their patriotism. In Tuesday night's debate, men of all parties were unanimous in their support of the principle for which the nation is contending. The Earl of Derby and his political friends, from whom some opposition might not unreasonably have been expected, considering their antecedents, had not a syllable to say against the policy of the war. On the contrary, they were loud and even generous in its support. "In this war," said Lord Derby, "the whole nation, as one man, sympathises with the Crown and the Government. In the prosecution of this war the nation is pressing forward with a unanimity of feeling, and an abnegation of every selfish consideration, which is almost unparalleled in the history of our country." His Lordship was equally eloquent and emphatic in the tribute which he rendered to the bravery of the British and French armies: "When," he exclaimed, "we read the history of this campaign—when we read it, not as politicians, but as men and as Englishmen, I say there cannot be a heart which does not throb with honest and generous pride that these much-enduring, all-daring, and all-achieving men are our countrymen." "It is impossible," he added, "to conceive a more pleasing state of things than that France and England—two nations which have, for many years, been accustomed to regard each other with feelings of enmity—should now be rivals in glory and brothers in arms; having one common object, recognising the merit and bravery of each other, and cheerfully striving together in the teeth of victory." In the Lower House, Sir John Pakington and Mr. Disraeli were severally as emphatic, if not as eloquent, as the leader of their party. The hope expressed by the former, "that amongst every party in the House there would prevail a degree of cordiality and unanimity never exceeded in any popular assembly," was realised by the passing of the Address to her Majesty without a dissentient voice. "There was," said Mr. Disraeli, "no number of men, there was no amount of treasure, which the Government might not command. The money would be given freely by a free people, and the men would be animated by that immortal spirit which had already rendered their achievements a part of the classic recollection of human nature." "We had," he continued, "a prosperous people, a unanimous Parliament, a popular war, and the most powerful ally in the world." Such sentiments, even if they had been confined to the Ministerial side of the House, or been ratified by a mere majority of the Legislature, would have had a powerful influence in every country of Europe. But, coming as they did from the lips of men who are the party opponents of the Government, from men who would do it a mischief if they could, or dared, they have more than ordinary significance and value. British parties may be rancorous and strong upon all minor questions, but British patriotism becomes stronger than party when the honour or the safety of the nation is at stake. Despots like the Czar may enjoy the advantage of unity of will, but what is their unity of will compared with that which animates a great and a free people in a righteous cause? The will

of a despot depends, in the last extremity, upon the acquiescence of his people. They may fail him in the hour of need, and, though a people of slaves, they may sport with the life and the throne of a despot after the same rude fashion as the storms of the Euxine sported with the helpless fleets of Great Britain on the 14th of November last. Wrecks and misery mark the track of the tempest, and show the fury of the waves; and the heads of kings are sometimes thrown bleeding and lifeless upon the beach. But the will of a free people, convinced of the righteous-

ness of its purpose, has no such mighty forces to subdue it. It stands immovable when crowns and dynasties are shattered to the dust. Such, at this moment, is the will of the British nation; and wherever the records of this week's debates in its Parliament shall find their way, the fact will be patent to all who have understanding enough to measure it.

The same unanimity which approves the policy of the war is not to be expected to endorse all the measures by which it has been conducted. Neither do we think it is desirable that no ex-



OMER PACHA.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY MR. ROBERTSON, OF CONSTANTINOPLE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

ception should be taken to the acts of the Ministry in this respect. Ministers are liable to error like other people. It is wholesome that in every detail, and in every department of business, their conduct should be carefully and even jealously watched. Omissions apparently the most trivial may produce incalculable mischief; and errors which look slight when they are perpetrated may produce fatal results if they be not remedied in time. No one can go the length of saying that the Ministry is immaculate in this respect. It would do them no service to allege that they did all that ought to have been done, at the proper moment for doing it—or that they neglected nothing, forgot nothing, and mismanaged nothing. But enough has been said on all these points, both in and out of Parliament, to serve any useful purpose. The country is convinced that the Ministry, if it have failed at all, has not failed in good intention, in honesty of purpose, or in any great and essential object of the war; and the principal members of the Administration have fairly taken the sting out of party, as well as out of friendly reproach, by the frank admission of their errors and oversights.

Some of their errors were not peculiar to them, but were shared by the whole nation, and by all those portions of Europe which do not yet own the allegiance of Russia. They did not know the strength of Sebastopol, nor the resources of the Czar. Their ignorance was not very marvellous, when we think with what jealous care the Autocrat has prevented travellers from approaching his favourite fortress, or making themselves acquainted with its capabilities for aggression or for resistance. In such a case, to confess ignorance is to disarm criticism; and this is the course which the Government has adopted. As regards the delays with which they have been charged during the earlier stages of the conflict—especially by club and tap-room critics, and by factious grumblers, who think they prove their own capacity by denying all capacity to other people—the Government have done wisely to remind their opponents of the magnitude of their task, of the unparalleled nature of the expedition against the Crimea, and of the necessity of a combination of movement with the forces of France. If France—essentially a military nation—could not despatch a greater number of men to the Crimea than those which were landed in the Bay of Kalamita on the 14th of September, it is surely not so wonderful, or so blameworthy, that Great Britain—which is not so thoroughly a military nation as its ally—should not have sent as many regiments as paper generals—wise after the event—considered to be requisite. As to the minor charges, such as deficient hospital and medical arrangements, by which medicines were at Varna when they were required at Scutari, and by which lint at the moment of need was stowed away hundreds of miles from the hands of those who could have made it instrumental in the relief of human suffering, the Ministers could do no more than throw themselves upon the considerate forbearance of the country, and justify the appeal by showing that mistakes were no sooner pointed out than they were rectified; and that—whatever may have been the case in the past—all proper arrangements have been made for the present and the future. Political enmity is disarmed when present efficiency is proved in the same breath that admits past error. The country knows that the war has always been honestly, and that—at the present moment—it is zealously and ably, conducted. It will forgive faults of detail, for the sake of the great aggregate results which have been attained. France and England have been cordially united; Austria has been slowly, but surely, compelled to enter into the alliance; the moral no less than the physical supremacy of Great Britain has been asserted and vindicated; Russia has been humbled; her fleets have been reduced to inaction, or sunk by her own hands; her soil has been invaded, her prestige has been annihilated, her trade has been impeded and ruined; and the civilised world is banded in firm union against her power and her pretences. These are great results; and, with the blessing of Heaven, they will lead to yet greater. At all events, no domestic disunion will imperil such advantages, or make this country less effective in future war, or less skilful in future negotiations than she has already proved herself to be. Such, when party animosities shall have ceased to obscure contemporary vision, will be the meed of praise with which History will hereafter record the deeds of the present Administration in a crisis of unexampled peril and difficulty.

OMER PACHA IN THE CRIMEA.

AFTER several months of unwilling inactivity, the Turkish Commander is likely to have an opportunity of showing what he can do once more. A telegraphic despatch from Bucharest, of the 8th inst., announces that the Turkish army will retrace its steps, and recross the Danube, while a force of 35,000 is to embark at Varna for the Crimea. Omer Pacha is said to have ordered this movement in consequence of a request from Lord Raglan and General Canrobert. Sadyk Pacha's corps, however, will be ordered to occupy the Dobrudja, and Turkish garrisons are to remain at Kalarasch and Giurgevo. Omer Pacha, who will personally command his troops in the Crimea, left Bucharest for Varna on the 11th, according to a despatch of that date, which adds that preparations were actively making at Varna for the embarkation of the remainder of the Turkish troops, a large number of them having already sailed. The remaining portion of the Turkish army will be disposed of in the Dobrudja and the fortified places on the Danube, the two most important points, Kalarasch and Giurgevo, being garrisoned by a full complement of men.

The sending the flower of the Turkish army to the Crimea, with the renowned Omer Pacha at its head, to reinforce our armies there, will make the Czar rather nervous. To make a rough calculation, the strength of the Allied armies by the end of this month will probably exceed 120,000 men, which force may be sufficient to accomplish the desired object. The whole of the French reinforcements will have been landed in the Crimea by the middle of next month, at the latest. The first step taken by the Allies, when they are in full force and well prepared, will no doubt be to detach a sufficient number of troops to drive the enemy from Bagtcheseraï, and cut off his communication with Sebastopol. This having been done, the storming will in all probability take place. It is said that the Russian army is very much distressed for want of provisions; and there must be some truth in this, for the precarious supplies upon which the Russian army depends can scarcely arrive in sufficient quantity, or regularly enough, to meet the demand.

The Portrait of Omer Pacha, engraved upon the preceding page, is from a Photograph taken by Mr. Robertson, at Constantinople, and presented to her Grace the Duchess of Inverness—through whose courtesy we are enabled to present the accompanying illustration to our readers. The portrait realises the most striking characteristics of the physiognomy of Omer Pacha described by our contemporaries. He wears a fez cap, which shows to advantage the clear, well-marked lines of his calm and resolute face, embrowned by exposure to wind and weather for many a year of a soldier's life, and the hue of which is

well contrasted with his snow-white whiskers and beard. In the rude mouth, with compressed thick lips, is traceable enormous firmness and resolution. The chin, full and square, evinces the same qualities, which may also be discerned in the general form of the head. All the rougher features, the coarse nose, and the slight prominence of the cheek bones, are more than redeemed by the quick, penetrating, and expressive eye, full of quiet courage and genius, and by the calm though rather stubborn brow, marked by lines of thought, rising above the thick shaggy eyebrow.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

A significant symptom of the effect produced here by the adhesion of Austria, and the results expected therefrom, appears in the fact that the Court is emerging from its seclusion, and beginning to resume its usual routine of existence. A report went the rounds that their Majesties were to appear at the Opera last week; they did not do so, but a special representation was officially commanded at that theatre for yesterday—the piece chosen was the "Muette de Portici." On Sunday took place the first grand dinner at the Tuilleries, to which were invited the members of the *corps diplomatique*. It is said that a regular series of evening receptions will take place on Sundays, through the rest of the season, for the Senate and Legislative Body.

The health of the Prince Napoleon is improved, and he expects shortly to resume the command of his division. He has sent to the troops a large supply of wine and tobacco.

We are happy to announce a marked improvement in the health of M. Bineau that it is hoped he may ere long be able to return to the duties of his office.

The celebrated surgeon M. Jules Cloquet has offered to the Emperor his country house, situated on the borders of the sea, at Toulon, to receive the wounded sailors and soldiers of the Eastern service. The offer has been accepted by his Majesty, with many gratifying expressions for M. Cloquet.

A singular trait of modern manners is exemplified in the following fact. The son of the late M. Louis Perré, formerly member of the Constituent, director of the *Sicile*, and a man of large fortune, and that of M. Charles Laffitte, banker, and *député* under Louis Philippe have the same day been entered as apprentices in a mechanic's workshop, without any privileges or distinctions beyond those of their companions of the usual class.

On Monday began a sale of pictures which attracted an unusual number of amateurs; and, considering the times, many purchasers. This sale consisted of the collection of the Meklenbourg—one well-known to connoisseurs, as containing a number of admirable specimens of the genius of Rembrandt, Ostade, Rubens, Wouvermans, Hobbema, &c.; besides some of the best productions of Decamps, Diaz, Troyon, Meissonier, Th. Rousseau, Jules Dupré, &c.

Public attention has been for some time on the stretch respecting a trial announced to begin on Monday. The accused, Mlle. Doudat, being charged with the care and education of the five daughters of an English physician, one of the pupils die, it is alleged, by violence received at her hands. The father brought the affair to a trial, which, as we stated, was to commence on Monday; but, to the disappointment of an immense audience, English and French, it has been deferred, owing to the illness of the prisoner, till Friday (to-morrow).

Among the works in preparation for the Great Industrial Exhibition are 100 copies of the "Imitation de Jésus Christ," got up with a magnificence hitherto unexampled. The 100 copies will not, it is computed, cost less in the execution than 150,000 francs (£6000).

A report has been going the round of the theatrical world that M. Crosnier, whose appointment as director of the Grand Opera we but a short time since announced, was about to resign his functions. This rumour is, we believe we may confidently state, without foundation. M. Crosnier continues to give and receive the utmost satisfaction in his office, which he is likely long to fill. The principal theatrical success of the day is the "Ennemis de la Maison," at the Théâtre Français, by M. Camille Doucet. The piece itself possesses qualities which render the critics nearly unanimous in applause, and even were it less meritorious, the fact of its being rendered by Regnier, Mlle. Allan, and Mlle. Emilie Dubois, the first *ingénue* of the day, would cover a multitude of defects. A grand *fête* at the Gaité, "Les Cinq Cents Diables," attracts a good many spectators; the decorations are very effective, the piece of about the usual force of this sort of representations. The Opéra Comique is preparing a work by MM. Lockray and Grisar, entitled "Le Chien du Jardinier." The same piece—of course, without the music—is, it is said, to be played at one of the principal theatres. The new play of Mlle. Emilie de Girardin, "Le Chapeau de l'Horloger," at the Gymnase, is, however, the one which excites the greatest curiosity and interest, and for which the most brilliant success is anticipated.

AMERICA.

The steam-ship *Asia*, which left New York on the 28th ult., arrived at Liverpool on Sunday. Political affairs in the United States appear to be very quiet. Some anxiety was felt about the Message, which will probably arrive by next steamer. It is said that the President will strongly urge the necessity of enrolling three extra regiments of regular cavalry, and the building of six additional steam-frigates of the first class; not with hostile intent, but in order to meet the growing expansion of the settled frontiers of the Republic.

The war news from Europe is received with extraordinary avidity, and is made the subject of editorial remark in journals of every shade of party. Generally speaking, the leading papers express feelings friendly towards the Allies, but repudiate the idea that the war, *per se*, has any claim on the sympathies of the American people. An opinion—whether well or ill-founded time will show—has gained an extensive hold on the public mind, that the Anglo-French alliance will eventually interfere in the affairs of the western continent; and to this opinion much of the lukewarmness of feeling must be attributed. Mr. Bright's letter is reprinted in several papers, with favourable comments.

The Legislature of the State of South Carolina had assembled, and had received the Governor's annual Message. The Governor thinks that the laws relative to free persons of colour arriving at a southern seaport might be modified so as not to give offence.

In the Canadian Legislature, on the 25th November, the Feudal Tenure Abolition Bill was read for the third time in the Legislative Assembly.

The Nova Scotia Legislature has been summoned to meet on the 2nd December for the despatch of business. The session has been convened at this early day to take into consideration the Reciprocity Treaty, which must be acted upon before the 5th, if the province wishes to participate in the benefits to be derived from the treaty.

INDIA AND CHINA.

The *Calcutta* arrived at five a.m., in 108 hours from Alexandria, at Trieste, on Wednesday. The India and China mails left Alexandria on the 8th December, with advices from Calcutta 8th November, Madras 12th November, Shanghai 11th October, Amoy 22nd October, Hong-kong 28th October, Canton 27th October, Bombay 14th November. Lord F. Fitzclarence, Commander-in-Chief at Bombay, is dead. An envoy from Kokan, and another from Dest Mohamed, had arrived in Peshawar to ask for assistance from the British Government against the Russians, the Afghan chiefs having decided on an English preference to a Russo-Persian alliance. Lord Elphinstone is at Bombay, suffering from the effect of a sun-stroke. The Governor-General was at Calcutta, but would leave for the Nilgherries in March. The insurgent cause was gaining ground in North China.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

THE telegraphic accounts from the Crimea come as far down as the 7th inst., at which time there was said to be a great movement between the town and the north of the bay. The investment of the place by the French and English was nearly complete. The united strength of the Allies in the Crimea will soon be about 120,000 men, including the Turkish contingent. The most precise information relating to the condition of the Allies, up to the sailing of the *Thabor* steamer, which left Constantinople on the 30th, is contained in the following despatch from General Canrobert to the French Minister of War:—

Monsieur le Maréchal.—The weather is improving—a fact bearing closely upon our operations. A continual rain, and the bad state of the roads on the table lands where we are established, had considerably increased our difficulties in the conveyance of provisions and matériel. A little sunshine will soon remedy that evil, and we shall resume our labours with redoubled activity. The enemy on his side takes advantage of all these forced interruptions in order to increase his means of defence, as we are able to perceive. Hitherto he has done his best to intimidate us; and never before was there seen such a consumption of powder and ball. Our artillery officers calculate that they have fired off for this purpose, since our arrival before the walls of Sebastopol, 400,000 cannon-shots, and 1,200,000 kilogrammes of powder. From this some conception may be formed of the stores that have long been accumulating in the place. We nevertheless observe that their artillery has become more economical, and that the discharge of hollow projectiles in particular has much diminished. The number of our killed or wounded does not exceed 16 per day.

The army of Prince Menschikoff keeps on the defensive. It covers its positions with works defended by ship guns, and it seems a settled thing that, until fresh orders, it has given up all intentions of undertaking anything against us. In the meantime, our situation is improving in every respect. The reinforcements arrive, and the condition of our regiments of Zouaves, like that of all those originally from Africa, is especially satisfactory. Our commissariat supplies have assumed large proportions, and I find myself this very day enabled to distribute among the troops a daily ration of wine or brandy. This is a very important point, which will prevent much illness, and keep up our effective strength.

Winter garments are also arriving, and already the hood and the sheep-skin paletot are common in our camps. The soldier will nobly and courageously support the trial of the bad season when he thus sees himself the object of special care, evidencing so much anxiety for his situation on the part of the Emperor and his Ministers.

The Turkish Government has promised me 6000 conical tents, which are in great request here, on account of their resisting better than our own the very violent winds of these countries.

I can assure you, Marshal, that the army is getting to be singularly inured, and you cannot imagine how our young folks, rapidly ripened by the greatness of the contest, are fast becoming old soldiers. It would have delighted you to see deployed lines remaining calm and immovable under a fire of artillery which Lord Raglan declared to me was superior to what he had heard at Waterloo.

I give you these details because they cannot fail sensibly to interest you, and at the same time reassure you.

The new Division will find here elder ones that will set them a good example. Deign to accept, &c.

Admiral Hamelin writes, under the same date, that he was landing, for the use of General Canrobert, fifty-five heavy guns, chiefly taken from the *Henri IV*. They will be manned by the 500 marines who were disembarked with the seamen gunners, aided by thirty captains of guns. The naval brigade will then be serving no less than seventy guns directed against Sebastopol. The practice made by the seamen has gained them much respect throughout the Camp. A thousand French soldiers arrived in the Bay of Kamiesh on the 27th, and 2000 were every hour expected on the 28th.

The despatch of Vice-Admiral Dandras reports a service of much skill and gallantry which was executed in the Strait of Kertch by the *Tribune*, *Highflyer* and *Lynx*, under the orders of Captain the Hon. S. T. Carnegie, of the first-named ship. A large martello tower, commanding the road from Anapa to Kertch, was destroyed on the 12th Nov. by the fire of the squadron, and by a party which was landed to complete the work. It may be inferred from this fact that the Strait of Kertch is closely watched, and that every exertion is used to prevent reinforcements and supplies arriving in the Russian camp from Asia.

CAPTURE OF A RUSSIAN POST.

The capture of a Russian fort, as it was called in the telegraphic despatches, is described in recent letters from the Crimea. It appears that the Russian advanced posts in front of our left attack had taken up a position which incommoded our troops in the trenches, and which occasioned not a few casualties, whilst it also enabled the enemy to take in reverse the French troops working in their lines. On the night of the 20th ult., a detachment of the 1st Battalion Rifle Brigade, under Lieut. Tryon, was directed to dislodge the Russians. This service "was performed most gallantly and effectively," but at the cost of the life of the commanding officer, and of twenty-four men killed and wounded. The Russians attempted several times to re-establish themselves on the ground before daylight on the 21st, but they were repulsed. "This little exploit," adds Lord Raglan, "was so highly prized by General Canrobert, that he instantly published an 'Ordre Général' announcing it to the French army; and combining, with a just tribute to the gallantry of the troops, the expression of his deep sympathy in the regret felt for the loss of a young officer of so much distinction." Lord Raglan states, in his second despatch, that on the night of the 22nd and the following morning the Russians renewed their efforts to get possession of the ground from which they had been driven; but were repulsed in the most spirited manner by detachments of the 4th and 57th Regts.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

The *St. Jean d'Acre*, the *Princess Royal*, the *Cesar*, and the *James Watt*, have arrived from the Baltic. Admiral Napier has sailed for England with the *Duke of Wellington*, the *Royal George*, *Nile*, *Hogue*, and *Blenheim*. They will be in Portsmouth in a few days. The only vessels now left in the Baltic are the *Edinburgh*, with the flag of Rear-Admiral Chads; the *Euryalus*, and the *Vulture*. These are at Elsinore, from whence they will probably soon depart for Leith.

The fears of a hostile visit from the ships of England and France entertained by the Governor of Riga were so great as to induce him to have large quantities of stones sunk in the channel to the harbour, so as to prevent the entrance of at least the ships-of-the-line. This has been executed with such success as entirely to impede the navigation. Several loaded merchant-vessels have endeavoured to leave the port, but they have been obliged to return.

A NEW DANISH MINISTRY.

Many of the electoral districts of the provinces which, since the establishment of the Constitution, have been accustomed to return the same members to the Second Chamber, have now elected members the most hostile to the Ministry. The feeling against the latter was such that in many districts the newly-elected deputies were carried in triumph through the streets and public places. M. Tätein, the deputy who proposed the impeachment of the Ministry a short time back, was made the object of a popular and general ovation. All the houses in the vicinity were illuminated in his honour. In consequence of these facts the Ministers tendered their resignation, which the King accepted.

A new Cabinet has been formed, which consists of the following members:—M. Von Scheel, from Pinneborg, Holstein, and *ad interim* for Foreign Affairs; in the absence of Count Plessen, Envoy at Stockholm; M. P. G. Bang, former Minister of the Interior, and *ad interim* for Schleswig; Professor Hall, Minister for Public Worship; Colonel Anders, Minister of Finance; Colonel Lüttichau, War Department; Commander Michelsen, Marine; and M. Simony, formerly Minister of Public Instruction.

WHOLESALE RATIONS.—I can safely assert, from a good deal of actual knowledge on the subject, that a man can live on the rations of a private soldier day after day; and can, with the blessing of Heaven, maintain good condition and strong health upon them alone. Let any one who likes it get up at six o'clock every morning—earlier if need be; take his breakfast of soaked and dried biscuit, tea, and a slice of beef or ration pork; let him, after some hours of honest exertion, eat his dinner, composed of a good soup of ration beef and rice, or of boiled pork and rice; then let him wash it down with his gill of ration rum; follow the meal (should he be a smoker) by a sound pipe of ration tobacco; eat a bit of ration biscuit, and drink a cup of ration tea or coffee; or he goes to bed at dark; and I am quite certain he will feel at the end of a week that he has lived, if not "unwisely and too well," at least leanly and wholesomely as a gentleman should, and that he has consumed enough of nutritious food to develop his strength and fit him for any exertion of which his bodily frame may be capable. The Commissariat department of this army, in spite of unforeseen calamities, in spite of deficient transport, of bad roads, of sea delays, of winds and waves, have continued to feed the men wonderfully well; and I maintain, and ever will do so, that no body of troops ever took the field with such an abundance of supplies derived from distant countries, and that no army was ever so well fed when away from their own homes, as the present British Expedition. That it may be so to the end is all a soldier can ask.—Letter from Balaklava.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(Continued from page 615.)

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

The Duke of RICHMOND, having presented a petition from Wakefield in favour of the vigorous prosecution of the war, paid a high compliment to the valour of the officers and soldiers engaged, and to the conduct of the Commander-in-Chief. He recommended that medals should be struck immediately, in token of the high approbation with which the exertions of the army are regarded.

FOREIGN ENLISTMENT BILL.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE moved the second reading of the Bill for the Enlistment of Foreigners. He quoted the years of 1794, of 1804, and 1806 as precedents in support of the motion. It was highly desirable in the beginning of a war to have such a resource available, because of the limited number of our standing army. He assured the House that no communications on this subject had been made to any foreign Court, nor would her Majesty's Ministers do so until the bill on the table had received the sanction of both Houses of Parliament. It was proposed to limit the number of foreigners enlisted to 15,000, and they were to be placed in separate depôts in this country.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH rose to oppose the motion. He felt particular repugnance to that part of the bill which would sanction the admission of foreigners as a garrison into this country; and when he considered the nature of the bill lying at this moment on the table of the other House for the purpose of removing the Militia force lately embodied to the Mediterranean, that repugnance was still more increased. He believed that it was intended to substitute those 15,000 foreigners for our 15,000 Militiamen—a proceeding that would create great discontent in the country. There was nothing to justify any one in supposing that the people of this country were unable or unwilling to maintain their national interests by their own right arms. The cases quoted as precedents were altogether different to the situation of the country at the present time; inasmuch as during the last war the foreigners enlisted were, generally speaking, fighting for their own countries, which had been subjugated by France. He recommended the establishment of a uniform system of police throughout the country as the best foundation of our military system. He believed that the proposed bill was wholly unnecessary; that it would be most injurious and offensive to the people, who had shown a disposition to make every sacrifice to carry on the war; that the enlistment of such a force would lead to the most serious consequences in the general administration of the country; and that it was contrary to all constitutional principle.

The Duke of RICHMOND bore testimony to the gallantry and the valuable services rendered by the German Legion during the last war, and especially at Waterloo.

The Earl of DERBY said that he could not oppose the second reading of the bill, inasmuch as he had given a pledge to that effect before he had ascertained the nature of the measure to be proposed. Having now ascertained the full character of the bill, he gave notice that he would oppose every clause of it in Committee.

The Earl of ABERDEEN urged the necessity of the measure, and vindicated the provisions of the bill.

The Earl of MALMESBURY opposed the bill.

After some further discussion, in which the Duke of Argyll, Earl Grey, and the Duke of Newcastle took part, the bill was read a third time without a division.

Her Majesty's most gracious reply to the Address of their Lordships on the Speech from the Throne was brought up, and ordered to be inserted on the journals.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

The House met at four o'clock.

NEW MEMBER.

Major REED took the oath and his seat for Abingdon, in the room of Lord Norreys, now the Earl of Abingdon.

Mr. HADFIELD asked whether it was the intention of the Government to introduce any bill this session for the abolition of the Ecclesiastical Courts?

Lord J. RUSSELL declined to answer the question, inasmuch as he thought it most inconvenient to put such questions at the present time. At the meeting of the House after the Christmas recess, the Government would be prepared to state the nature of the measures they intended to introduce in the present session of Parliament.

THE AUSTRIAN TREATY.

In reply to Mr. M. Milnes, Lord J. RUSSELL said, that a few days ago the necessary documents in connection with the treaty of Austria were sent off to Vienna for ratification by Austria. As soon as her Majesty's Government received information that those documents were ratified, they would at once lay a copy of the treaty upon the table of the House, without waiting for the return of those papers.

THE LOSS OF "THE PRINCE."

In reply to Mr. Hildyard, Sir J. GRAHAM said that he had received no official intelligence of the loss of the *Prince* at Balaklava; but he had reason to believe that the troops she carried were disembarked on the evening of the 8th November. They were, he believed, disembarked outside the harbour, by means of a small steamer. The right hon. Baronet made a statement in vindication of the efficiency of her commander, and of the security of her cables, which he supported by reading letters from the parties who had secured the cables, as well as from those by whom their strength had been tested.

Mr. M. GIBSON asked with whom the responsibility rested of directing the transports to anchor on such an exposed coast as that outside Balaklava?

Sir J. GRAHAM said that the responsibility rested with the senior naval officer commanding at Balaklava.

In reply to Mr. Wilkinson, Mr. CARDWELL said that the Government had a measure prepared on the subject of limited partnerships, which would be introduced after the recess.

Lord J. RUSSELL, in reply to Mr. Spooner, said that the Commissioners for Inquiring into the State of Education at Maynooth had not as yet made their report.

Sir J. YOUNG obtained leave to introduce a Bill to Consolidate and Simplify the Laws relating to Jurors and Juries in Ireland. At a subsequent part of the evening the right hon. Baronet brought in the bill, which was read a first time.

In reply to a question from Mr. Disraeli, Lord J. RUSSELL said that the Government intended to bring in only two bills before adjourning for the recess—viz., the Militia Bill, already before the House; and the Foreign Enlistment Bill, which was a measure to enable her Majesty to employ foreign troops. The noble Lord said he hoped they would be enabled to adjourn on Thursday next.

THE NEWSPAPER STAMP.

Mr. M. GIBSON asked whether the war journals, which deal in one subject only, were still to be exempt from the newspaper stamp? The journals who paid the stamp complained of this unfair competition to which they were exposed.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER admitted the anomalous state of the law upon the subject, and said that the Government would redeem the pledge they gave last session, by preparing a measure to settle this very difficult question. In the meantime they felt it their duty to enforce the existing law. The measure could not be conveniently discussed until after the recess, when he hoped that the Government would be able to introduce a measure that would satisfy even the right hon. gentleman that they had given every attention to the subject.

THE MILITIA BILL.

Lord PALMERSTON moved the second reading of the Militia Bill; which, after a few observations from Colonel Sibthorp and Lord Lovaine, was agreed to.

Upon the suggestion of Mr. DISRAELI, the Committee upon the Bill was fixed for Monday.

In reply to a question from Mr. Adderley, Sir G. GREY said that since the declaration of war with Russia the Government had received the most loyal and gratifying assurances from all our most important colonies. They made no distinct offer of men to serve in the war; but said that, if requisite, they would be ready to risk their lives in her Majesty's service.

After some desultory conversation the subject dropped.

BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES FAT CATTLE AND POULTRY EXHIBITION.

THE Birmingham Annual Exhibition was, by a judicious arrangement of the managing committee, fixed to take place on Tuesday last, the week following the Smithfield Club Cattle-show. For several years previously, either from want of concert, or some other cause, these two important exhibitions had been made to take place simultaneously, to the injury of both, and the great inconvenience of those who were desirous of seeing each.

It would, however, be an additional improvement if the Midland Counties Exhibition could be arranged so as to precede the Smithfield one; possibly the Smithfield Cattle Club will not concede this point. There can, however, be no doubt that the alteration suggested would greatly benefit both exhibitions, and add to the convenience of the public and exhibitors generally.

The gross entries of stock were not quite so numerous as last year; but the lack of numbers was amply made up in quality; in fact, a mere even set of horned cattle has rarely been shown. By way of general remark, however, it may be observed that, notwithstanding the animal which obtained the gold medal in Class 1 possessed most of the points desiderated, and always looked for amongst Hereford cattle, we failed to remark any decided pre-eminence in either of the animals over others shown at prior exhibitions; confining this remark, however, to Class 1 and 2.

In Class 3 (Hereford Cows) and Class 4 (Hereford Heifers) it was gratifying to remark the decided advance made in the symmetry and size of the animals exhibited. This is a very important and favourable circumstance; and it is pleasing to see so much attention paid to the development of the female animals—a point that, up to a recent period, has been much neglected amongst Hereford breeders. The first prize was awarded to a four years and ten months cow belonging to Mr. Stedman, near Ludlow; but we conceive that the one which obtained the second premium must, in her prime, have been the superior animal: the latter, taking her age (thirteen years and nine months) into consideration, was the finest specimen of female fat stock we ever saw, and must have proved to the owner a most valuable animal, as she is entered as having had ten calves born alive. The Hereford Heifers (Class 4) were very superior animals. Amongst the Short-horns, that exhibited by Mr. Richard Stratton deservedly attracted much attention, being one of the finest animals of this kind ever exhibited. The other classes of Short-horns, although good, do not merit any special remark, the heifers and cows of this class displaying their points much better at a "stock" than a "fat cattle show."

If there was one point of excellence in the Exhibition greater than another, it was amongst the Devons, which it may almost be said were all of very superior merit. We have only space to specially particularize the one in Class 12, a Devon heifer, exhibited by His Royal Highness Prince Albert, bred by Mr. Samuel Farthing, age three years and eight months; we have not seen any animal equal to this since the celebrated exhibition of the Royal Agricultural Society at Exeter. The Earl of Leicester had several very fine animals amongst the Devons, and was successful to some extent, having obtained four prizes. The show of Long-horns was somewhat unfavourable, especially when it is borne in remembrance that Birmingham is so near the celebrated Longhorn district.

Amongst the Cross-bred and Miscellaneous Horned Stock there was one animal particularly deserving of attention, aged three years and seven months, exhibited by the Duke of Beaufort. It was a cross between a West Highland bull and a Jersey cow: this cross appeared to combine the good points of each of those breeds. As the West Highland cow affords rich milk, but deficient in quantity, whilst the Jersey is remarkable for yielding both quantity and quality, it is probable that a judicious cross, like the one under notice, may prove a great boon to Highland farmers; as, from the specimen shown, it appears also to possess the desirable quality of arriving at early maturity, with considerable fattening propensities.

The show of Sheep was good, but possessed no marked feature deserving of special notice; nor did the Pigs equal many exhibitions which we have attended; No. 182, a pig, nine months and 20 days old, exhibited and bred by H.R.H. Prince Albert, which obtained the first prize in Class 31, being the only one deserving of special notice. This was certainly a most superior animal. The entries of cattle amounted to 119, of sheep 61, of pigs 56; total 236.

The entries for Poultry numbered 1712. Of the last class it will be impossible to find space even to enumerate the varieties exhibited; therefore the specific qualities of individuals of *recherché* character amongst poultry and pigeon fanciers must be wholly overlooked. We were glad to find, also, that the general taste of the public accorded much with our own, namely, to neglect the ungainly Coochin-China, and pay more attention to the more useful Dorkings, Polands, and Spanish. Some very splendid turkeys also attracted much attention. The Aylesbury and Rouen ducks also drew many admirers. We failed, however, to perceive any very superior merit amongst this genus, if we except the pen which obtained the first prize in the Aylesbury class. As regards the "Rouens," we cannot understand why that title has been awarded to a breed of which we could pick up thousands of splendid specimens at any fair in the west of Ireland.

We cannot conclude the report of the Poultry without expressing our approbation of the pen of turkeys exhibited by Mr. Melre, stated to be of Cambridgeshire breed, which, from the promissory price, £1000, fixed by the exhibitor in the catalogue, we may infer that Mr. Melre purposes to keep for the exclusive use of his own table. The geese were not so fine as we think they might be made. We would throw out a hint for the next year's exhibition—namely, to offer prizes for fat turkeys, geese, and ducks. We cannot see why all the "fat" prizes should be confined to the bovine, ovine, and porcine races: let the powers of endurance in cranning be also tried on the ornithological specimens.

Next week we shall engrave a few of the finest prizes from this Show.

WILLS AND BEQUESTS.—The will of Lieutenant-General Sir Henry Goldfinch, C.B., has just been proved; also that of Lieutenant and Adjutant Thomas Irvin, 13th Light Dragoons, who died at Crim Tartary in September; and Captain E. F. Rowley, R.N. Captain Albert Evelyn Rowley, 1st Regiment of Guards, who was killed at Sebastopol in October, had not made a will; his effects have been administered to under £12,000. Captain Watkin Williams Wyan, 23rd Welsh Fusiliers, killed at Alma in September, also died intestate. Vice-Admiral the Hon. George Powlett died intestate. William Gleave, Esq., of Lansdowne-place, Hove, whose personality was estimated at £12,000, has bequeathed £100 to the Royal Berkshire Hospital, and £100 to the Manchester Royal Infirmary. Mrs. Mary Bousquet's effects, £8000: £100 to the British and Foreign Bible Society, £100 Church Missionary, and £100 Christian Knowledge. Edward Hornnall, Esq., four-factor, Mark-lane, and Upper Clapham, £70,000 personality; J. T. Scovell, Esq., merchant, Southampton, £80,000; F. Langford, Esq., Udimore, £30,000; and E. Varnish, Esq., Brompton, £20,000.

JUBILEE IN HONOUR OF A RUSSIAN EDITOR.—Letters from St. Petersburg state that, at the beginning of this month, in addition to the usual solemnities attached to the anniversary of the present Emperor's accession to the throne, St. Petersburg was to be witness of a jubilee in honour of the Staatsrath Nicholas Iwanowitch Gretsche, the editor of the *Northern Bee*. This individual adds to his many other valuable qualities of *homme de lettres*, that of being one of the chief fomenters of the Russian hatred for the English. In recognition of his many merits, the Emperor has given orders for a magnificent present to be prepared for him, and his peculiar friends, through whose means he receives his instructions from the highest regions. Admiral Riorod, General Adjutant Rostowoff, Geheimrath Panajen, Graf Tolstol, and Graf Kujasewitch, have undertaken to receive all the presents intended for him; in his exertions in behalf of a brilliant jubilee for this champion of Russianism, the Grand Duke Constantine is prominent above all. According to Staatsrath Gretsche, "the English are the most greedy of conquest, the most tyrannical, and, at the same time, the most narrow-souled nation of shopkeepers in the world. Under the cloak of philanthropic or Christian undertakings, England always pursues her own mercantile aims. As she found in Russia an obstacle to these undertakings, nothing was more natural than that she should so shuffle the cards of politics, as that the present conflict must necessarily arise. Let the dice that are now thrown turn up as they may, England must and shall moderate her cold, calculating greed, that impels her to suck the globe dry for her own selfish ends. Should the Russian Cabinet, out of regard for its neighbours, for the present hold hands, it will, as long as Russia and England exist, continue to be the task of the former, in the interest of all the nations of the earth, to restrain within bounds, or to destroy, the exhausting, draining policy of England."

RUSSIAN GUNNERY.—There is no advantage to be gained from disguising the fact that the Russian gunnery is excellent. They work the guns quickly; manage to make metal of the same weight throw their shot further than we do, and aim with great precision. They depress and elevate more fully and easily, and many things that our artillerymen will tell you cannot be done, or rather are not done, at Woolwich, it is very

evident the Russians are able to do at Sebastopol. Their earthwork batteries, which we thought lightly of, and permitted to be thrown up without any attempt at interruption, are at this moment apparently as firm and good in every respect as our own. Some of these were not commenced on our arrival; and we could easily have annoyed, and in a great degree prevented their construction by the use of one or two guns. But it was apparently calculated—over confidently—that the grand crash from all the guns opening at once, and the effect of their fire, would have produced as depressing an effect on the courage and endurance of the Russian garrison as it was hoped it would have physically on the batteries and fortifications. In regretting that this course was adopted, it cannot be forgotten that these remarks are based by the knowledge that it in a great measure proved a failure; but it does still appear that a more correct judgment ought to have been formed *a priori* by our engineers as to the power of resistance of the Russian earthworks against our artillery. Before the fire from the English batteries commenced, it was constantly remarked that the works which were so industriously thrown up before our eyes around the Round Tower would disappear immediately after our guns opened; but the fact is, the guns in the mud batteries there have never once been wholly silenced, and now, our fire having been in a great degree withdrawn from it for some time past, the embrasures have been made nearly as perfect as they ever were, and are fitted for the reception of guns at any moment, if they are not there already. So with the other earth batteries opposed to ours. It is not so on the left; there the most advanced battery of the Russians has been silenced. This has happened because, from the nature of the ground, the French have been enabled to make regular approaches, and therefore were certain of eventually silencing the work. But, even at this point, the Russians have thrown up a retrenchment, which is nearly as destructive to the French works as the former battery.—*Letter from the Camp, Nov. 14.*

"THE TRIAL OF THE PYX."

AMONG the duties attached to the office of the "Comptrollers-General of the Receipt and Issue of her Majesty's Exchequer" is the custody, jointly with the Treasury, of the standard pieces of gold and silver used for the assay of the coin of the realm, commonly called the *Trial of the Pyx*. This Trial is an important and ceremonious proceeding, and is held before the Privy Council, the Lord Chancellor presiding. The standard pieces of gold and silver are deposited in the ancient Pyx Chapel at Westminster Abbey; and when required for a Trial they are taken to the Exchequer Office in Whitehall-yard, where a jury of goldsmiths verify by their assay the coins deposited in the Pyx-box by the Master of the Mint, these coins being taken at random from a certain weight called a *journey*. The jury consist of twelve practical goldsmiths, summoned by the Wardens of the Goldsmiths' Company of London, who, in their verdict, certify the result of the assay. A Trial was performed at the Exchequer Office, on Wednesday week, four years having elapsed since the previous Trial was made; and as the ceremony is interesting, and its object important—namely, the purity and proper value of the current coin of the realm—we have illustrated the form of proceeding in the Exchequer Office, and append the details.

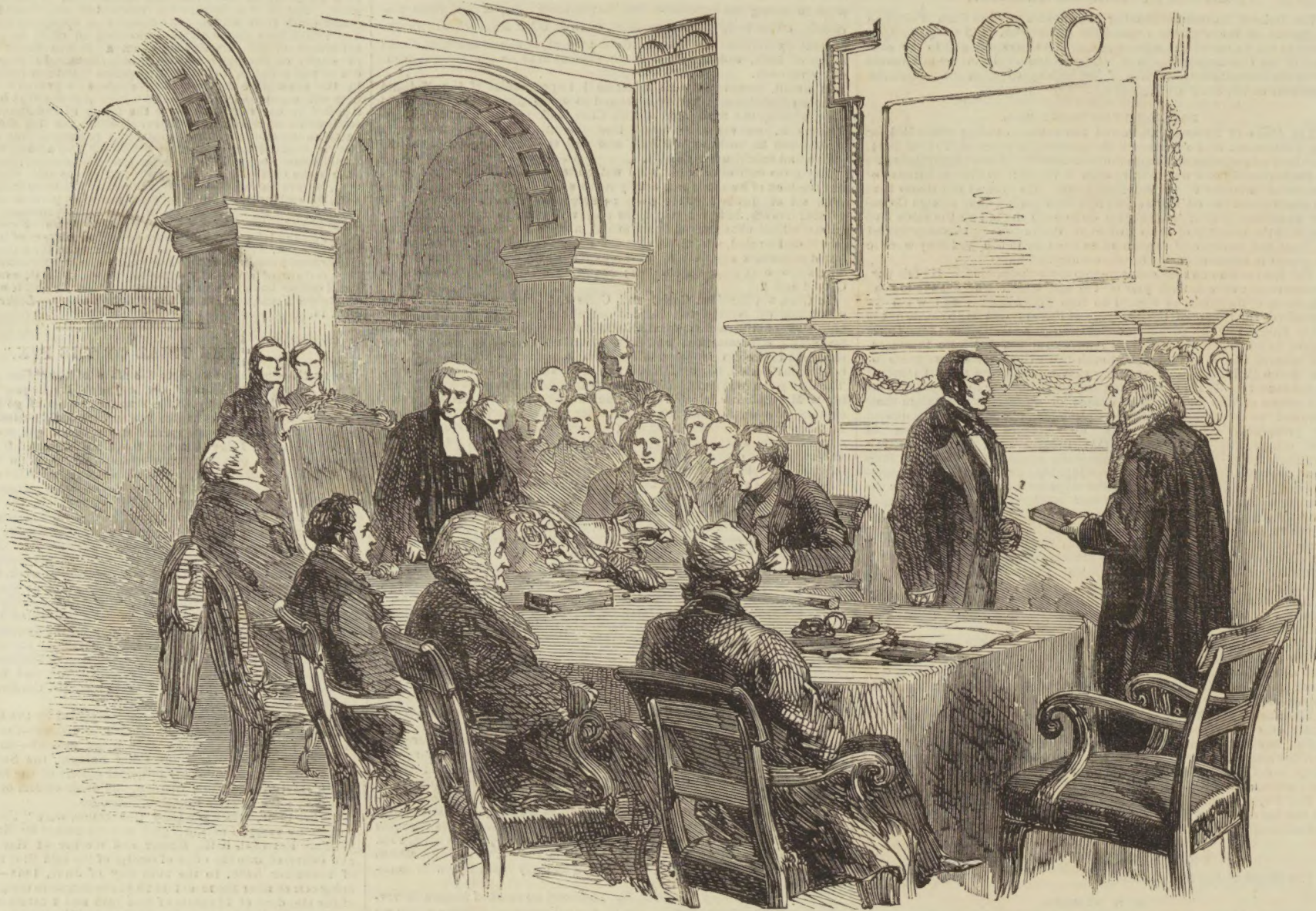
On Wednesday the Lord Chancellor arrived at the office at half-past nine o'clock, and was there met by four Privy Counsellors, summoned for the occasion, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Sir Edward Ryan (Assistant Comptroller of the Exchequer), Mr. Cardwell, and the Lord Chief Baron, in his full judicial robes.

The Lord Chancellor—who was accompanied by the Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms, the Mace Bearer, and the Purse Bearer—then took his seat, and the Court was opened; there being present—Sir John Herschel, the Master of the Mint; the Chief Assayer, the Superintendent, the Melter, the Coiner, and other principal officers of the Mint; Mr. George Smith Hayter, the Prime Warden, and other officers of the Goldsmiths' Company; the Queen's Remembrancer, &c.

On the table, before the Lord Chancellor, were "the Pyx," or boxes containing samples of the "gold moneys coined by Sir John Frederick William Herschel, K.H., Master and Worker of Her Majesty's Mint, and delivered into the office of receipt of the said Mint from the 16th day of December, 1850, to the 30th day of June, 1854—the said moneys being coined after the rate of 46 29.40 sovereigns to the pound weight troy, of the standard of 22 carats of fine gold and 2 carats of alloy, pursuant to Act of Parliament the 56th of George III., chapter 68, sec. 11, and the Mint indenture bearing date the 6th of February, 1817." The amount of the gold moneys represented was £28,835,534 16s. 10d. The Pyx also contained samples of "the silver moneys" coined and delivered by the Master and Worker of her Majesty's Mint, from December 16, 1850, to June 30, 1854,—the said moneys being coined after the rate of 66 shillings to the pound weight troy, of the standard of 11 oz. 2 dwt. of fine silver and 18 dwt. of alloy, pursuant to Act of Parliament the 56th of George III., cap. 68, sec. 11, and the Mint indenture bearing date the 6th of February, 1817." The amount of the silver moneys represented was £1,030,005 1s. 3d. These returns were duly certified by Sir John Herschel, and by Mr. W. H. Barton, the Deputy Master and Controller of the Mint. There was also a large bar of standard gold, by comparison with which the new coinage has to be tested.

The Queen's Remembrancer administered the oath to the following gentlemen (all goldsmiths and silversmiths), who composed the Jury:—Mr. James Garrard, of Finner; Mr. James Henderson Waterston, of Henrietta-street, Covent-garden; Mr. Henry John Lias, of Myddelton-square; Mr. John Grey, of Billiter-square; Mr. Richard Fowkes Wingrove, of Wood-street; Mr. Henry Sykes Thornton, of Brechin-lane; Mr. George Grenfell Glyn, of Lombard-street; Mr. William Summers, of Great Marlborough-street; Mr. George Matthews, of Hatton-garden; Mr. Jeremiah Fuller, and Mr. Josiah Sharp, of the Assay-office, Goldsmiths'-hall; and Mr. Henry John Lias, jun., of Myddelton-square.

The Lord Chancellor, in addressing the Jury, said the object for the attainment of which they had assembled was one of very great importance—namely, the securing of the due state of the coinage, and preventing it being debased. In former times, he believed, the proceeding Jury were now about going through was adopted before the coin was issued; but in modern times that was not the case. Security was now taken for the coin before it was issued, that it was in conformity with the former standard, and that was held to be sufficient. The ancient custom, however, of preserving some of the old coin was continued. The oath the Jury had taken imposed upon them the duty of testing the coin which had been issued since the last trial four years ago—namely, in 1850—to ascertain whether it was in conformity with the weight and standard which the law required. The Jury were probably aware that the course which was formerly taken between the Sovereign and the Master of the Mint was this:—The Master on the Mint entered into a deed with the Crown to make the coin in conformity with the legal standard, and successive Masters of the Mint had executed similar indentures. That custom had been altered, and, instead of a new indenture being executed by each Master of the Mint, it was held sufficient that he should be bound by the last that was executed—namely, that of Mr. Wellesley Pole, afterwards Lord Mornington, when he was Master of the Mint. Shortly before the issuing of the new silver coinage in 1816 or 1817, an Act of Parliament was passed whereby certain alterations were effected as to the silver coin, the alteration being this,—that for every sixty-six shillings, the number into which a pound of silver was to be coined, the person bringing the silver was to receive sixty-two; but he believed that no alteration was made in the standard of fineness. With regard to the gold coinage, no alteration was made beyond a provision that, when the coin of the new denomination should be issued, instead of guineas and half-guineas, there should be some proportion preserved between the new coin, and the old guineas, half-guineas, and seven-shilling pieces. Mr. Wellesley Pole, soon after the passing of the statute, executed the deed under which successive Masters of the Mint should coin up to the present time; but it was proper that he (the Lord Chancellor) should explain that, in the year 1850, when Sir John Herschel, the present Master of the Mint, was appointed, a report was made recommending material alterations in the constitution of the Mint; and, in consequence of that report being made to her Majesty in Council, an order was made dispensing with all the regulations of the indentures, and simply imposing upon the Master of the Mint to issue the coinage in conformity with the statutes which related to them. Having turned the matter over in his mind, he (the Lord Chancellor) did not think that circumstance would interfere with the duties of the Jury; for, although the Order in Council dispensed with the indenture, it must be taken to mean that, though it dispensed with all the Mint regulations, it did not alter in any respect the duties of the Master of the Mint in relation to the fineness and weight of the coins he wished to issue. The duty of the Jury would be to take into their custody the coins which had been set apart in the pyx or box from 1850 up to the month of June last, to which period their present trial was to extend. Their duty would be to take those coins and compare them with the standard fineness of gold and silver, and to ascertain that each of those coins had been issued in conformity with that standard. To be absolutely in conformity with the standard might appear impossible. By the utmost exertion it might be impossible to get one lump of metal so to correspond with another that there should be no assignable difference between them; and, contemplating that circumstance, it was always allowed to the Master of the Mint to have what



"TRIAL OF THE PYX," AT THE OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER-GENERAL OF THE EXCHEQUER, WHITEHALL.

was called "a remedy," the derivation of which he (the Lord Chancellor) did not comprehend; and, therefore, could not explain. The difference allowed to the Master, however, was very minute. To one carat in the pound of gold the Master was restricted; if he kept within that it was held that he had performed his duty. He was not quite sure that he was right in this, but if he had made a mistake the Jury would be put right upon the point. He believed that, for the last century, upon the suggestion of a very eminent predecessor of his, Lord Talbot, it was agreed that the Jury should find, not only that the amount was within "the remedy," but that they should ascertain and declare how much. The Jury would now proceed, according to the terms of their oath, to examine the gold according to the standard; and he had no doubt they would discharge their duties conscientiously and with ability. He might add that he should be happy to receive their verdict in the Court of Chancery on the next morning at a quarter-past ten o'clock.

A piece of the standard was then clipped off, for the purpose of guiding the Jury; and the boxes were conveyed to Goldsmiths'-hall, whither the Jury proceeded; and the remainder of the day was occupied in the necessary examination.

The trial takes place in the principal apartment of the Exchequer-office, in Whitehall-yard. It is a handsome room, ornamented in the somewhat heavy style of the last century. The Lord Chancellor is seated in a carved chair, with the Privy Counsellors at the board, or table; and the stage of the proceeding represented by our Artist is the Remembrancer administering the oath to the Jury.

THE STEAM-SHIP "EUROPA."

The large ocean paddle-wheel steamer *Europa*, one of the Cunard Company's British and North American mail-steamers, was taken up by Government about the middle of last month, for the conveyance of

troops to the Crimea. On Saturday morning, the 18th ult., a company of the Royal Artillery (160 rank and file, with five officers) embarked in the *Europa*, then lying in the Huskisson Dock, Liverpool; and in the afternoon a detachment of infantry from London arrived, and went on board the steamer, which sailed that evening for Dublin, where she arrived next morning before daybreak. At twelve o'clock the whole of the 90th Light Infantry left the Royal Barracks, Dublin, for the railway to Kingstown, preceded by two bands, and followed by a dense mass of people, whose frequent cheers drowned the music of the bands. On the arrival of the troops at Kingstown Harbour, the *Europa* was hauled alongside the *Wolf* hulk, in waiting to receive them. A large assemblage of spectators was collected to witness their embarkation, and in a short time the whole of the 860 soldiers of the 90th Regiment were on board the transport, which sailed for the Crimea next morning. The sketch represents the *Europa* steaming round the harbour after leaving the hulk.



"THE EUROPA" STEAM-SHIP LEAVING KINGSTOWN WITH THE 90TH REGIMENT ON BOARD, FOR THE SEAT OF WAR.



STEAM-ENGINES AND THRASHING-MACHINES, AT THE SMITHFIELD CLUB SHOW.

STEAM-ENGINES AND THRASHING-MACHINES AT THE SMITHFIELD CLUB CATTLE SHOW.

In our Journal of last week we referred to this department as the most attractive novelty in the Exhibition of Agricultural Implements and Machinery at King-street Bazaar. This new display proved more forcibly than anything else the great progress that is making in the application of steam to agricultural purposes, and also the improved class of machinery that is being brought into use. The steam-engines (portable) and thrashing-machines were arranged in two rows—the thrashing machine and engine of each manufacturer placed opposite to each other, as they would stand when at work, all of beautiful design and first-class workmanship. The effect produced on the spectator as he walked between was singularly striking. Thrashing-machines are being made larger, more elaborate in their details, and necessarily more expensive, at every succeeding exhibition of them that takes place; they are no longer the noisy, rudely-constructed contrivances of times past, but are now truly fine machines, capable of executing an immense amount of work in a short time. They are mostly capable of thrashing a bushel of wheat per minute—shaking the straw, separating the chaff, and so effectually cleaning the wheat, that, after being afterwards once run through a dressing-machine, it is ready for market. Some improvements have recently been introduced, such as the side-blast, that have much improved the machine; yet it is remarkable that, with all the improvements that have been made in this machine, and the great amount of skill brought to bear upon it, the original principles of Andrew Meikle are still adhered to, and constitute its leading feature.

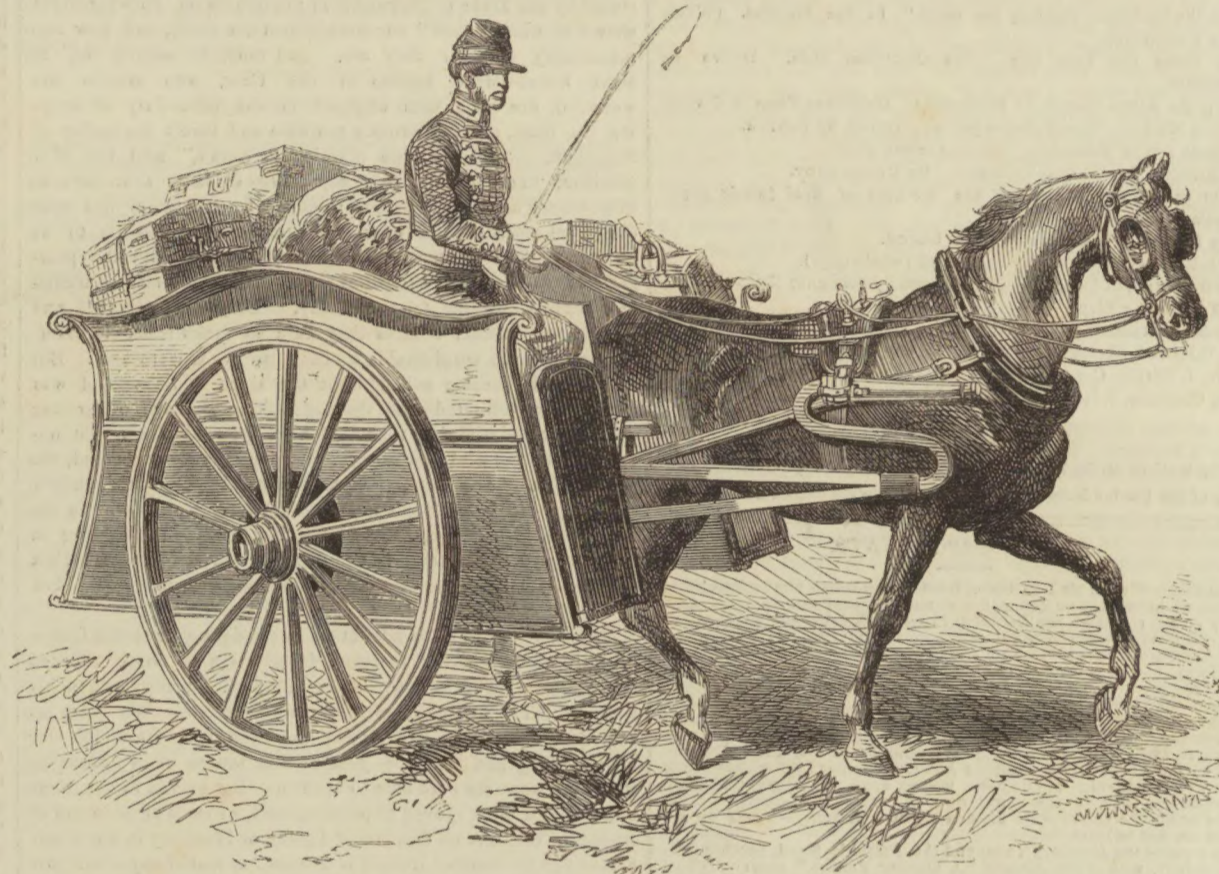
Another novelty in this department was the *Patent Spring-shaft Safety Car*, which from its lightness, commodiousness, and strength, and, as we hear, its cheapness, bids fair to supersede the whole tribe of dog-carts, chaise-carts, errand-carts, &c. Nor is it likely to be the substitute of the two-wheeled vehicle only. It will prove a valuable substitute to families in the country whose incomes or desires are limited to the one-horsed chaise or the four-wheeled phaeton; seeing that this carriage, seated for carrying five or seven persons, takes them, without inconvenience to themselves, and with greater ease to the horse than he would drag four persons on two axles with smaller wheels. While lighter of draught, and more commodious than any four-wheeled chaise, it is even nearer to the ground than the lowest of these; a circumstance which will doubtless commend its use to ladies, who can enter it without even the ordinary auxiliary of a step. The carriage can be got up, in various shapes, of greater or less elegance of form; as a very elegant park chair, or country-road, or sea-side carriage, for ladies and children; in the latter, in the form of a comfortable headed sociable, under whose canopy the servants are, as well as the family, protected from the weather.

Our illustration is a portrait of one of these useful carriages, which was, not long since, at the desire of his Grace the Minister of War, inspected by a committee of officers at Woolwich, and of which, we believe, some specimens are in course of construction, at present, at the Arsenal.

It is in its supposed military capacity that our draughtsman has made a soldier its driver. But though, doubtless, of great service in any country, the seat of war, where carts are seldom to be had, and none that can be relied on to carry great weights—rendering it necessary for Government to provide ample cart conveyance for its armies—still it is rather in being a cart for general use that its great value consists; seeing that, besides meeting the wants of the gentleman, the sportsman, and the farmer, it has already commended itself to the migrant and the colonist as well as to the tradesman of London for their uses. The Patentees state that the peculiar construction of this Car enables the horse in working to develop his powers to the fullest extent; whilst that of the springs (which admit of regulation) enables them to sustain almost any

weight that can be placed upon them. This construction causes them, when duly adjusted, to spring equally with the greatest weight that the carriage can be expected to bear, and that of one person. The power of regulating the springs also enables the drivers to adapt the power of

either spring to the due sustaining of the weight to be carried; so that although the load on one side of the Car may be, for example, a full cask, and on the other an empty one, the proper horizontality of the floor will be preserved.



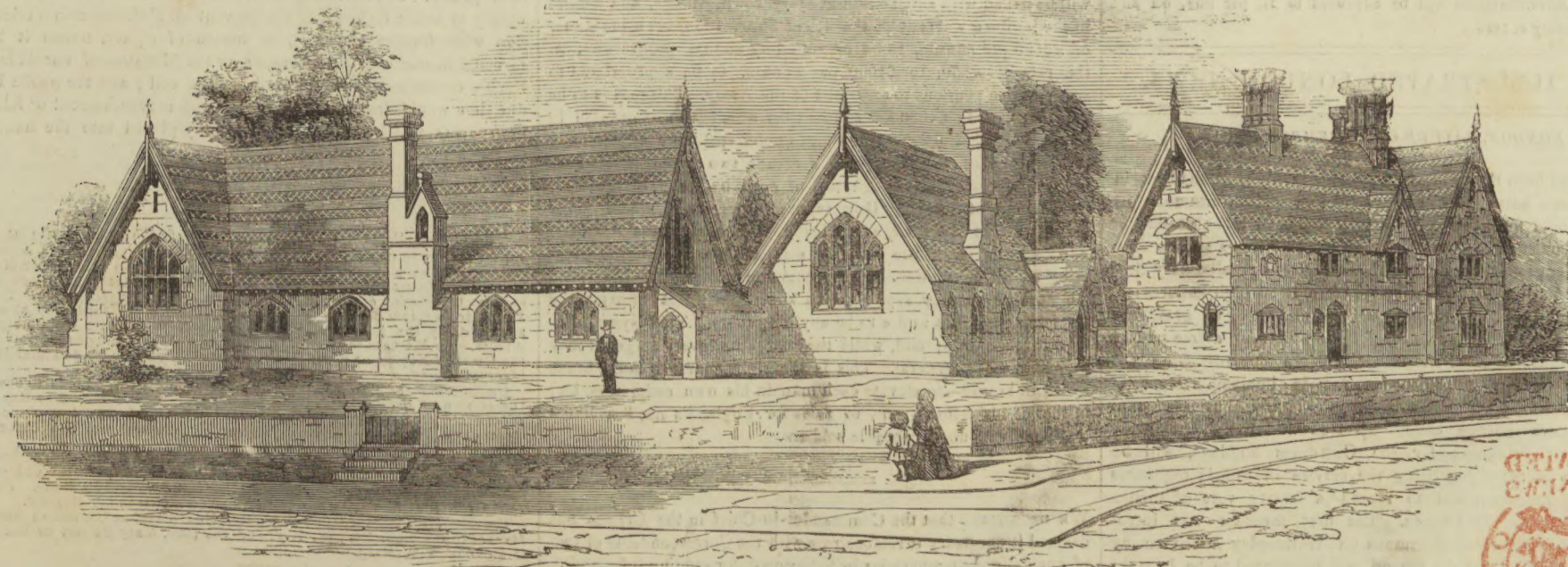
PATENT MILITARY FORAGING-CART.

REIGATE NATIONAL SCHOOLS.

This institution has recently been added to the many educational establishments which attest alike the charity of the opulent and well-to-do classes of the county of Surrey, and their anxiety to improve the intellectual condition of their poorer neighbours.

These Schools were dedicated to the great purposes for which they were

erected, by the Lord Bishop of Winchester, on the 17th ult., when nearly 200 children were admitted. The buildings consist of two residences for teachers; three school-rooms for boys, girls, and infants—which will accommodate, in all, 446 children; there are also two class-rooms, hat and cloak rooms, &c. The school-houses are in the Late English Domestic style; the walls are built of Nutfield stone; and the school-rooms are lined internally with unplastered



REIGATE NEW NATIONAL SCHOOLS.



bricks, coloured; and the roofs are open-timbered. The several buildings are covered with ornamental tiles, the tint of which harmonises with that of the stone. The fittings of the schools are in accordance with the suggestions of the Committee of Council for Education, by whom a considerable grant in aid of the building fund was promised. Mr. Henry Clutton, architect, of Whitehall-place, furnished the designs; and Mr. Carruthers, of Beigate, has executed the building in the most satisfactory manner.

The Schools are situated at a short distance from the Police-station upon an elevated site; and have a very picturesque effect in combination with the neighbouring buildings and the charming landscape for which Beigate is so much admired. The cost is stated at £2750.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, Dec. 17.—3rd Sunday in Advent.
MONDAY, 18.—Oxford Term ends. Bolivar died, 1830.
TUESDAY, 19.—Dr. Darwin died, 1732. Tycho Brahe born, 1586.
WEDNESDAY, 20.—Ember Week. Gray born, 1716.
THURSDAY, 21.—Shortest Day. St. Thomas.
FRIDAY, 22.—Holcroft born, 1744.
SATURDAY, 23.—Abdication of James II., 1688. Antwerp surrend., 1832.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE

FOR THE WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 23, 1854.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
11 10	0 15	0 35	1 0	1 25	1 50	2 15

GRAND ANNUAL NUMBER

OF THE

ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS,

FOR CHRISTMAS, 1854.

Our usual Anniversary Extra Number for Christmas will be published on SATURDAY next, DECEMBER 23, 1854, containing the following

SPLENDID ENGRAVINGS:

"How the Christmas Pudding was made." In Ten Pictures. (Whole page Engraving).

Bring Home the Yule Log. The Christmas Dole. Drawn by DODGSON.

Cutting the Achen Faggot in Devonshire. Christmas Trees in Covent-garden Market. The Mistletoe Sellers. Drawn by FOSTER.

Christmas Eve in Brittany. The Star in the East.

The Christmas Guest—Jacob's Dream. By REMBRANDT.

Charles the Second Knighting the Sir-Loin of Beef (whole page). Drawn by GILBERT.

"Very Fond of it." Drawn by JOHN LEECH.

The Christmas-Tree in the Crystal Palace (whole page).

A Child's Dream of Twelfth-Night. Drawn by CHARLES KEENE.

The Westminster Play.

And other characteristic Engravings.

With Tales and Sketches by Shirley Brooks, Angus Reach, Cathbert

Bede, J. Stirling Coyne, &c.

Acting Charades, Private Theatricals, &c.

Also, the Number of

Illustrations of the News of the Week, Foreign and Domestic.

Price of the Double Number, One Shilling. With Supplement gratis.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A QUAKER.—We are glad to learn, from a somewhat pugnacious letter which we have received under this signature; that the Quakers as a body do not recognise the *Herald of Peace* as their organ; that they do not collectively refuse their subscriptions to the Patriotic Fund; that they for the most part "look on the Czar as a monster of wickedness, duplicity, and blasphemy;" that Mr. Sturge's Quixotic mission to St. Petersburg was not authorised by the Society of Friends, who almost unanimously condemned it; and that "many Quakers have already contributed largely to the fund for the relief of the widows and orphans of the army." So far we are happy to render justice to the Quakers, even upon the anonymous authority of our correspondent. But we must decline to publish his letter, or to enter into a theological controversy with him, or any other person, upon the alleged sinfulness of defensive war, or the moral duty of "peace-at-all-prices." Upon these points the Quakers are fortunately in a minority—where we are quite content to leave them.

As regards the *Herald of Peace* and the Patriotic Fund, another Correspondent, who signs himself "A Quaker Patriot," says:—"Allow me to enter my protest against the uncalculated 'decision' of the *Herald of Peace* quoted in your Journal. God forbid that I should leave anything undone to lessen the horrors of war! We do not oppose war because it is *horrid*, but because it is *wrong*. Do we sanction the system by alleviating the suffering it occasions? Do we sanction slavery by promoting the education of the slave? Did Howard sanction crime by lessening the horrors of the prison? And shall the Friends of Peace absent themselves from the meetings in aid of the Patriotic Fund because the spirit of these meetings is martial? Let them rather embrace the opportunity thus afforded of testifying at once their benevolence and their Peace principles. Let them head the subscription list in aid of the widow and fatherless, and they will then be in a position to denounce the system by which such suffering is caused."

THE TORM AT BALACLAVA.—We have specially to thank several Correspondents in the Crimea for Sketches of the Wrecks at Balacava, received subsequently to the Views which we this day engrave.

. In consequence of the Sale of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS now reaching One Hundred and Fifty Thousand copies per Week, the Price of Advertisements will be advanced to 2s. per line, on and after January 6, 1855.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1854.

If there had been no business to be transacted by Parliament in the few days between its assembling and its adjournment, its meeting would not have been without value. The expression of its unanimous approval of the policy of the war is a service more than sufficient to justify and to adorn the short preliminary Session. Yet Parliament has business before it of high importance, which happily can be performed with a unanimity as gratifying to the country, and as suggestive of the power of a free people, as that which marked the debate on the Address. As the Chancellor of the Exchequer is not in immediate want of money, and meditates no loan, the only business that our legislators will be called upon to undertake, before returning to their homes for the Christmas holidays, will be to pass an Act for legalising the service of militia regiments out of the kingdom; and to record a hearty vote of thanks to the Army in the Crimea. The first measure was introduced to the House of Commons on Wednesday afternoon by Lord Palmerston; and the second was announced to be brought before both Houses on Friday. The Militia Bill will excite no opposition in Parliament, and, when its provisions are thoroughly known throughout the country, it will be received by those most interested, with much satisfaction as by its friends in the House

The Militia regiments are not to be sent to reinforce our heroes in the Crimea. Lord Raglan and General Canrobert are in want of tried and trained soldiers, and not of recruits, however valiant and spirited they may be; and the Militia will be employed in garrison duty in Gibraltar, Corfu, and Malta. By this means all the regiments now serving in those stations will be rendered available in the Crimea. Powers will also be taken to employ the Militia in our North American Colonies, should it be found desirable to do so—a contingency, however, which is not likely to arise. In the present temper of the nation, the Government has, we think, acted wisely in relying upon the voluntary services and the enthusiasm of the Militia, instead of rendering it compulsory for them to serve abroad. No Militia soldier will be forced to expatriate himself against his will; and, if he goes to the Mediterranean in the service of his country, he will go as a free agent. There is no fear of any backwardness or hesitation. All the men that are required will be forthcoming; and neither candidates for the Regular Army, nor for the Militia, will be deterred from offering their services to their country by the arduous nature of the struggle in which it is engaged, nor by the privations and hardships which it may be their lot to encounter. On the contrary, the greater the need and the greater the peril of the service, the greater becomes the readiness—or, we might say, the eagerness—of the people to offer their strong right arms and their gallant hearts for the defence of the national cause. Unlike the conscript soldiers of the Czar—driven to the battle-field or to the parade by the knout, maddened to the encounter by copious doses of raki, and by the incentives of fanaticism and superstition—the soldiers of Great Britain, whether in the Line or in the Militia, need no incentives but those of duty and the love of distinction, to arm them in the service of their country. A fact stated by the Duke of Newcastle in the debate on Tuesday night shows of what "stuff" our countrymen are made, and how immeasurably superior they are, and must necessarily be, to those knout-driven legions of the Czar, who murder the wounded, fire upon men engaged in the pious duty of burying the dead, and barbarously mutilate and insult the bodies of the slain. "It has been practically found," said the War Minister, "and is now most especially evident, that men in this country are more anxious to enlist when success has been somewhat retarded, and when increased energy appears to be necessary, than when everything is proceeding with the prospect of an early and successful issue. At the first declaration of war recruits came forward freely. They soon relaxed, and during the summer months they were so much fewer in number as to cause considerable anxiety to the Government. But as soon as it became evident that the siege of Sebastopol was likely to be protracted—that the undertaking was one of greater magnitude and difficulty than had been believed—from that moment, when the zeal and energy of the people were aroused, the young men of the country came forward in greater numbers, and week by week the number has been progressing. In the last week we have considerably doubled the number offering in any one week at the commencement of the war, and increased six or seven-fold the power of recruiting which was manifested five or six weeks ago."

The Czar will find his advantage in pondering upon this fact—and will have another instance, in addition to those afforded at Alma and at Inkerman, of the indomitable energy and noble spirit which animate the men of this kingdom. We have no unwilling soldiers in our Army; and even Ireland—which for many a long and unhappy year was a source of weakness on which our enemies were sure to taunt us—has proved in the hour of need, as it often proved in previous wars, a source of pride and of strength. We have no disaffected Poland or Hungary in our dominions; and the heart of Ireland is as sound as that of any other portion of our empire, and throbs with the same generous emotion, and the same determination to conquer the Russians, as the great heart of England and Scotland. In connection with the state of the Army, and far better than a vote of thanks—highly prized as that may be, both by the officers and the men—we are glad to see that the Government has recognised the merit and the services of the non-commissioned officers and privates of the Crimea in a manner the most appropriate, and, to brave men, the most welcome. By a notification in the *London Gazette*, dated on the day of the opening of Parliament, one sergeant of each regiment of Cavalry, of the Guards, and of the Line, serving in the Crimea, is to be promoted to a Cornetcy or Ensigncy—their commissions to bear date from the day of Inkerman. In addition to this promotion—a departure from old routine which will be hailed with satisfaction in every town, village, and hamlet in the land—a warrant of the 4th of June, 1853, set aside a sum of £2000 per annum, to be increased by annual progression, at the rate of £250, to £4000 per annum, to be appropriated to good-service pensions to sergeants of the Army. This sum is to be at once raised to £4000—not more than which is to be granted in any one year. Furthermore—and to mark still more emphatically the gratitude of the nation—one sergeant, two corporals, and four privates of each cavalry regiment, of each battalion of the Foot Guards, and of the Rifle Brigade, are to receive a medal and a gratuity; that of the sergeants being £15, that of the corporals £10, and that of the private soldiers £5. But the great thing is the promotion. Every common soldier has long been taught that he may aspire to be a sergeant; but hitherto the sergeants could not aspire to be anything more. That system has been broken into; and, while the war lasts, every sergeant may aspire to be a general. This is the right course to make brave men still braver—to elevate each man in his own estimation, and in that of his fellows, and to raise for England's need a limitless supply of unconquerable soldiers.

We understand that the Commander-in-Chief in the Crimea has deemed it necessary to remonstrate with the Correspondents of two of our daily contemporaries in Sebastopol, for sending information to London of a nature to be of service to the Russians. The Duke of Wellington felt similarly annoyed when in the Peninsula; as will be seen from the following extract of a letter to the Earl of Liverpool:—

BADAJOS, Nov. 21, 1809.

My Lord,—I beg to call your Lordship's attention to the frequent paragraphs in the English newspapers describing the position, the numbers, the objects, and the means of attaining them possessed by the armies in Spain and Portugal. In some instances the English newspapers have accurately stated, not only the regiments occupying a position, but the number of men fit for duty of which each regiment was composed; and this intelligence must have reached the enemy at the same time that it did me, at a moment at which it was most important that he should not receive it. The newspapers have recently published an account of the defensive positions occupied by the different English and Portuguese corps, which certainly conveyed to the enemy the first knowledge he had of them, and I enclose a paragraph recently published describing the line of operation I should follow in case of the occurrence of a certain event, the preparations I had made for that operation, and where I had formed my magazines. It is not necessary to inquire in what manner the newspapers acquire this species of information; but, if the editors really feel an anxiety for the success of the military operations in the Peninsula, they will refrain from giving the information to the public, as they must know that their papers are read by the enemy, and that the information which they are desirous of conveying to their English readers is mischievous to the public, exactly in proportion as it is well-founded and correct. Your Lordship will be the best judge whether any other measures ought to be adopted to prevent the publication of this description of intelligence. I can only assure you that it will increase materially the difficulty of all operations in this country.

Every rational person must sympathise with men in such positions. The honour of England and the safety of the army are at this moment entrusted to Lord Raglan. If he finds information in the newspapers of which he believes the publication to be prejudicial, it is scarcely to be wondered at if he deems newspapers to be nuisances. On the other hand, the people at home, whose hearts are in the war, and whose best and bravest sons are serving in the Crimea, are naturally anxious for more copious information than Lord Raglan's despatches can afford them. In short, the newspaper and its ample details are absolutely necessary. The publication of letters from the Camp not only keeps up enthusiasm, and helps to create the valour which it extols, but administers in countless modes to the strength of the army and to the confidence and courage of the nation. It may be asked if there is no medium by which the duties performed by newspaper correspondents might be made in every respect compatible with the duties of the Generals in command? In other words, might not the Generals treat the newspaper correspondents as friends, and, by communicating to them what was desirable to be known, inform them at the same time of such facts as they thought fit for the interest of the service should not be published? We are certain that if confidence to this extent were placed in those gentlemen it would not be abused; and that they have no desire but to aid the common cause, and to share the patriotism as they already do the dangers of the campaign. If they have erred at any time, it has been in ignorance; and it is competent to the military authorities, by conference with them, to set them right, and to prevent the publication of a syllable that might in the least degree endanger the success of our arms. But, while we are upon the subject, we must express our conviction that the persons who are to blame, if any, are not newspaper correspondents in the Crimea, but newspaper editors in London, who not only exercise no supervision over the necessarily hasty letters which they receive, but who go out of their way to publish falsehoods of their own invention, and who serve the cause of the enemy by discouraging the people. When an influential journal tells the world that this great empire is "tottering on the pinnacle of its greatness"—that it has undertaken a task "beyond the limit of its power"—that the Russian Commander in the Crimea is receiving reinforcements "at the rate of 30,000 a day"—that Austria has forbidden the march of Omer Pacha, and has virtually joined the cause of the Czar—when it exaggerates every loss and every calamity that befalls our army, whether it arises from the sword of the enemy or the conflict of the elements—when it asserts that the war will make bread dear, and press with fearful severity upon the lower classes, who fancy themselves almost exempt from its infliction because they do not pay an Income or a Property tax towards it—more mischief is done to England, more encouragement afforded to Russia, and more discredit thrown upon the newspaper press, than ever arose from the publication of any *bonâ fide* letters from the seat of war. When it is considered that the Emperor of Russia has agents in this country, who can transmit to him by Electric Telegraph in a few hours all the statements of the daily press of London, or any other information which they may conceive to be useful to him, the enormity of the mischief that may be occasioned must be clear to the slowest-minded reader. And this leads us to suggest a remedy which the Government has it in its power to adopt. If it cannot interfere with unpatriotic or traitorous newspapers, it can prevent the Electric Telegraph from disseminating their poison. It can forbid the transmission of such news, either openly or under cipher, and can prevent all electrical communication with foreign countries, by means of cipher, unless it be directed to our own Ambassadors, or the Ministers of our Allies. Such a course as this would diminish the evil; and the public in due time would learn to do justice to the craven-hearted or false newspapers which wilfully or ignorantly played into the hands of the enemy.

THE COURT.

The Queen, Prince Albert, and suite, left Windsor Castle at a quarter before twelve o'clock on Monday, for Buckingham Palace, where they arrived at a quarter before one o'clock. At three o'clock her Majesty held a Court and Privy Council, at which the Queen's Speech on opening the Session of Parliament was arranged and agreed upon. The Hon. Sir William Temple, K.C.B., was presented to the Queen at an audience, by the Earl of Clarendon, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. Sir William took leave of the Queen, on returning to his post at the Court of Naples, as her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.

On Tuesday the Queen went in state to the House of Lords to open the session of Parliament with a Speech from the Throne. The Royal procession left Buckingham Palace at ten minutes before two o'clock, returned to the Palace at three o'clock, and at half-past five o'clock left town on their return to Windsor.

On Wednesday Earl Spencer, Lord Steward of the Household, arrived at the Castle, and had an audience of her Majesty, to present the Address from the House of Lords in answer to the Speech from the Throne. The Earl Granville and Lord Churchill arrived on a visit to her Majesty.

The Hon. Flora Macdonald and the Hon. Caroline Cavendish have succeeded the Hon. Lucy M. Kerr and the Hon. Mary Bute as Maids of Honour in Waiting.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester was honoured with a visit at Gloucester House, on Monday, by her Majesty. The Prince Consort visited her Royal Highness on Tuesday.

His Serene Highness Prince Ernest of Leiningen has left Windsor Castle for Germany.



THE BATTLE OF INKERMEN.—FINAL EFFORT OF THE RUSSIANS, AND JOINT CHARGE OF THE FRENCH AND ENGLISH TROOPS.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

BATTLE OF INKERMAN.—THE FINAL EFFORT OF THE RUSSIANS.

The battle of Inkerman lasted, without a moment's pause, from day-break on Sunday, the 5th of November, till about half-past two in the afternoon—eight hours and a half of the hardest fighting ever witnessed on any battle field.

The period of the battle represented in the Engraving is about one or two o'clock, when the half-drunk Russians made a final fruitless effort to gain possession of the heights of Inkerman. On the right hand may be seen the Algerine Rifles, who played so prominent a part in that day's affair, and along with them a battalion of the 7th Light Infantry is busily engaged in driving the Russians before them. The English infantry are making equal progress on the left; and as for the Russian forces, they are seen through the smoke to be extended to an immense distance, in the direction of the village of Inkerman. In spite of their numbers, however, they were soon forced to retire. By three in the afternoon the crests of the hills in front of Sebastopol were clear of the enemy, who soon after crossed the Tchernaya, and entered the hills on the other side, leaving a larger number of killed and wounded than the whole Allied forces engaged in the battle.

INCIDENTS OF THE STORM IN THE CRIMEA.

When the first fit of dismay was over the Camp got filled with ludicrous stories of the sad plight of such and such a one whom the gale caught in such and such a way. Thanks to the Russians, every one sleeps in his clothes, ready to turn out at a moment's notice. But, as ill-luck would have it, and as no Russian attack was apprehended during that particular night, a good many officers treated themselves to a night's rest in the only night gown known in the Camp—a red flannel shirt of very scanty dimensions. The hurricane turned them out, and left them even less time to dress than the Russians would have done. With their tents twirling high in the air, or running a mad race across country, these men were seen standing, while all their household goods lay shivered around them, gazing at the scene and at themselves with intense horror and astonishment. Some were actively employed in keeping their shirts in a position somewhat compatible with decency, while others stood on one leg, the tails of their shirts flapping about their ears, while the other leg was inserted into the corresponding half of a pair of refractory trousers that would swell out with the wind, and betrayed a strong inclination for an early trip to the Russian lines. In the camp of the Light Division a big drum rolled before the gale, making an awful noise, which astonished every one. A Colonel of Marines, stationed on the heights, on the extreme right of our Balaclava position, was taken up with his tent, in which he sat, with pillows and bolsters, clothes and weapons, cooking utensils, pots, pans, and kettles, and deposited at the bottom of a deep ravine. He knew not how he got in, and much less did he know how he should get out. When the first confusion in the Camp was got over, the gallant Colonel was among the missing. The wind howled and the sea thundered against the cliff, and drowned his voice. But at length he made himself heard, and some of his men, descending by means of ropes, assisted him in removing to other quarters. The accident which befel a Major of the 42nd Highlanders is more serious. A heavy barrel, driven down hill, and running on with great velocity, struck him in the back, and hurt, if it did not break, his spine. Statements vary as to the extent of the injury. An officer of the Light Division, who had left the Camp the moment he was blown out, took four hours to ride in to Balaclava, so he must have proceeded at the rate of two miles per hour; and both man and beast were dead beat when they came in.

THE OVERTHROW OF THE TENTS.

The air was filled with blankets, hats, great coats, little coats, and even tables and chairs! Macintoshes, quilts, indiarubber tubs, bed-clothes, sheets of tent-canvas went whirling like leaves in the gale towards Sebastopol. The shingle roofs of the outhouses were torn away and scattered over the Camp, and a portion of the roof of Lord Raglan's house was carried off to join them. The barns and Commissariat-sheds were laid bare at once. Large arabas, or waggons, which stood close to us, were overturned; men and horses were knocked down and rolled over and over; the ambulance waggons were turned topsyturvy; and a large and heavy table in Captain Chetwode's tent was lifted off the ground, whirled round and round till the leaf flew off, and then came to mother earth, deprived of a leg and seriously injured. The Marines and Rifles on the cliffs over Balaclava lost tents, clothes—everything: the storm tore them away over the face of the rock and hurled them across the bay, and the men had to cling to the earth with all their might to avoid the same fate.

Along the hill occupied by the Second Division the blast had been of equal violence. The ridges, the plains, and undulating tracts between the ravines, so lately smiling in the autumn sun, with row after row of neat white tents, now lay bare and desolate, the surface turned into sticky mud as black as ink, and the discoloured canvas rolled up in heaps all over it. The camp of the Chasseurs d'Afrique presented an appearance of equal desolation and misery. Their little tents d'abri stood for a few minutes, but at last the poles snapped, and they were involved in the common ruin. The face of the country was covered with horses which had torn away from the pickets. Nearly one-half of our cavalry horses broke loose. The French, flying for shelter, swarmed across the plains in all directions, seeking for the lee of old walls or banks for protection from the blast. Our men, more sullen and resolute, stood in front of their levelled tents while wind and rain tore over them, or collected in groups before their late camps. Woe betide the Russians had they come on that day, for, fiercer than the storm, and stronger than all its rage, the British soldier would have met and beaten their teeming battalions. The cry was all throughout this dreadful day, "Let us get at the town; better far that we should have a rush at the batteries and be done with it than stand here to be beaten by the storm."

THE MEN IN THE TRENCHES.

Let the reader imagine the bleakest common in all England, the wettest bog in all Ireland, or the dreariest moor in all Scotland, overhung by leaden skies, black as ink, and lashed by a tornado, sleet, snow, pelting drizzle, and rain—a few broken stone walls and roofless huts dotting it here and there—roads turned into torrents of mud or water across it, and then let him think of the condition in which men and horses must have been placed in such a spot on a November morning, suddenly deprived of their frail covering, and exposed to bitter cold and wet, with empty stomachs, and not the remotest prospect of obtaining food or shelter till the storm ceased. Think of the men in the trenches, the covering parties, the patrols, and outlying pickets and sentries, who had passed the night in storm and darkness, and who returned to their camp only to find fires out and tents destroyed. These were men who dared not turn their backs for a moment, who could not blink their eyes, on whose vigilance the safety of our position depended, and many of whom had been for eight or ten hours in the rain and cold. These are trials which demand the exercise of the soldier's highest qualities. A tempted sportsman caught in a Highland storm thinks no misery can exceed his own, as—fagged, and drenched, and hungry—he pines along the hill-side, and stumbles about in the dark towards some uncertain light; but he has no enemy worse than the wind and rain to face, and, in the first hut he reaches, repose and comfort await him. Our officers and soldiers, after a day like this, had to descend to the trenches again at night to look out for a crafty foe, to labour in the mire and ditches of the works! What fortitude and high courage to do all this without a murmur, and to bear such privations and hardships with unflinching resolution!

SUCH HURRICANES ARE UNCOMMON.

Hurricanes similar to that of the 14th are not common to this country—at least not to this part of it. Of the few native inhabitants of Balaclava that are allowed to remain, the oldest cannot remember a storm like the one which has done us such serious injury. Besides, if such storms were frequent, the houses of Balaclava would be more firmly joined, and their roofs more substantial. The hurricane blew down whole rows of poplars of twenty-five years' growth. They could never have attained that size if winter in the Crimea was usually ushered in by such convulsions of nature.

THE DAMAGE TO SEBASTOPOL.

One good effect of the gale is the damage it did to our enemies. Deserters tell us that the destruction of Sebastopol is terrible. A great many public buildings were unroofed; houses that had been fired by our shells fell in and buried a hundred among the ruins.

During the hurricane a whole flock of sheep actually deserted from Sebastopol and came over to our side, the men chasing them in all directions; and on the following day all the tent tables groaned with legs of mutton. Savoury odours arose from the slaughtered carcasses of sheep.

NOTES ON SIEGE OPERATIONS AND FIELD FORTIFICATION.

(Continued from page 543).

FIELD FORTIFICATION.

The works used in field fortification are more simple in their outline and mode of construction than works of permanent fortification; but in strengthening and defending them, an almost endless variety of resource and material may be called into play. The object of field works is generally either to defend an intrenched camp, lying behind them, or to command a defile, road, or bridge, so as to prevent the passage of hostile troops along it. According to their form they are divided into fleches or redans, lunettes or bastions, and redoubts; to which may be added têtes de pont—though these are, strictly speaking, only applications of one or other of the above descriptions of works, to a particular requirement—namely, the defence of a bridge.

A *fleche* or *redan*, is a work of two faces, pointing outwards or against the enemy, and open in the rear. When planted at the foot of a glacis, or in front of another work, it is called a *fleche*; when standing by itself, to command a pass, or to defend the avenues to a village, dike, bridge, &c.—in which case it is more considerable in size—it is called a *redan*. Redans, connected by means of a curtain, form lines of intrenchment, of which this is the most common form. Two redans joined, so as to form a mutual defence, are called by French engineers a *Bonnet de Pretre*. A *lunette*, or *tastion*, is a more considerable work than the *redan*, being composed of two faces and two flanks.

All the above are by nature open in the rear. A *redoubt* is an enclosed work, circular, or of four or more sides, according to the requirements of the case, and the configuration of the ground; and having an opening in the least exposed part of it—across which, in the inside, runs a traverse. A *star redoubt* is one whose sides alternately recede from and approach the centre.

The size of field-works is regulated by a consideration of the number of men intended to defend them; the latter being ranged two deep, and a space of two feet, or two feet and a half, being allowed for each file. When, in addition to infantry, cannon are to be placed in a field-work, six paces are allowed for a field-piece, and eight for a 12-pounder. When field-works are larger than required for the number of men allotted to them, they are weakened in consequence, being partially undefended.

In general—from the natural habit of soldiers to fire at right angles from the wall at which they are placed—the angles of a field-work are its weakest parts, and should therefore be placed towards the points least open to attack.

With the exception of star and circular redoubts, there is no necessity for studying regularity of shape. Indeed, on the contrary, it is the spot they are to be constructed on, as well as the lying of the ground near them which should determine their figure. In the case of a height being occupied by a redoubt, it is essential that every line of work should be so disposed that the slopes of the hill all round, to the very bottom, should be commanded. In attaining this, it is very immaterial how many sides the redoubt has, or what form they are placed in.

One very important variety in the structure of redoubts, and field-works generally, is that called *en cremaillere*. Here the inside line of the parapet is broken into angles resembling the teeth of a saw, or *pot-hooks* (whence the name). Part of the redoubt shown in our Engraving is in this form. The advantage gained by this method of construction is, that it gives the garrison of the redoubt a threefold command of a fire; namely, either direct, at right angles to the side of the redoubt, from the extreme angle of the indentation; or, laterally, in either direction from the sides of the indentation. Across

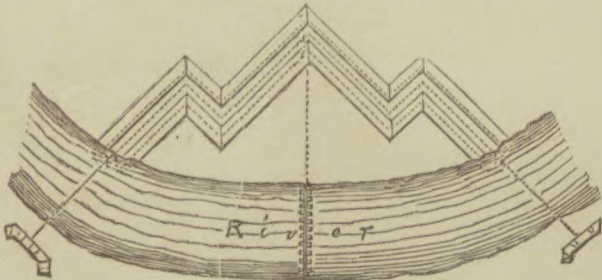


REDOUBT—PARTLY EN CREMAILLERE.

the inside of the gorge of the redoubt, at a small distance from it, is a traverse or rampart, with a ditch before it, to defend the entrance. Sometimes, particularly in the case of redoubts of large size, the entrance is defended by a *fleche* on the outside; in which case the gorge itself is closed with a *chevaux de frise*, and a communication of the same kind made between the *fleche* and the works.

Sometimes, when a redoubt is commanded in the rear by the army to which it belongs, it is left open there; that in case of the garrison being driven out of it, a fire may the more readily be opened upon the intruding enemy. In such case the rear is merely closed with a *chevaux de frise* running across it.

Têtes de Pont, or Bridge-heads, are works constructed to cover one or more bridges. In these works the gorge is generally open towards the bridge, the faces, or flanks, resting upon the banks of the river. *Têtes de pont* are usually constructed for the specific object of aiding a retreating army to pass a river in order, and check an enemy pressing on its rear. The magnitude and tracing of these works depend upon the importance



TETE DE PONT.

attached to the position, and a variety of circumstances—as whether they are intended to serve a temporary or permanent purpose. Sometimes *têtes de pont* are constructed to cover bridges of communication, or to contain troops destined to protect the manoeuvres of a corps either in forcing the passage of a river, or re-passing it in their retreat. The simplest form of *tête de pont*—and which will be sufficient to protect the passage of a narrow river where much is not feared from an enemy—is that of a *redan*; the faces coming close to the bank, and the entrance being made in the face least exposed. Even in such cases redans may be constructed on both sides of the river; or what will answer the purpose much the same, is to construct batteries on the opposite side of the river covering the faces of the *redan*, as shown in our Engraving.

CONSTRUCTION OF FIELD WORKS.

Field-works, whether continuous line of intrenchment, or separate works, as redoubts, redans, &c., are constructed and strengthened in the following manner:—Commencing from the inside of the work, we have first a rampart, for the defence of the troops, with a raised platform, called the *banquette*, upon which the latter stand in working the guns. The height of the *épaulement*, or high wall of the rampart, is generally six feet, that of the *banquette* a foot and a half, leaving four-and-a-half clear feet for the protection of the men. The body of the rampart is formed out of the earth dug out of the ditch which lies in front; and beyond the ditch is a *glacis*, or sloping ground, intended to conceal the front of the works from the enemy. Between the outer face of the rampart and the ditch is a narrow path, called the *berme*, and here, as shown in our Engraving, a *palisade*, formed of trees, is sometimes laid to give additional strength. The ground beyond the ditch is sometimes further strengthened by an *abattis*, constructed of felled trees, with the addition of small mines, or *fougasses*, underneath, to be exploded under the feet of the enemy.

In proceeding to the construction of such a work, the workmen stand in line upon the inner edge of what is to be the ditch—a space about a foot wide, and which itself is afterwards to become the *berme*. They then place a row of fascines along the inside line of the intended parapet, fixing them to the ground with small pickets of wood. The earth is then dug out in front of the *berme*, to make the ditch, and thrown behind the fascines to form the parapet. When the earth is filled in up to the height of the first row of fascines, another row is fixed over it, only a little backwards, so as to form the slope or *talus* requisite for solidity in works of this kind. Where fascines cannot be had for thus forming the revetment of a parapet, sods of earth may be used instead.

The principal materials used in the construction of batteries and field-works are—

Gabions—A gabion is a species of cylindrical basket, open at both ends. Gabions vary in size, according to the work for which they are intended. One principal use of them is to line or face the interior slopes of batteries; in which case they are placed in two rows, standing upright, end on end; and should be of such size, that the two rows make the height of the parapet. There are also some gabions about one foot high, used to put at the top of a rampart, to protect men firing over it. *Sap* gabions are used, in advancing upon a place, to cover the besiegers in their approach; and these are generally from three to six feet high. The gabions, after being placed, are filled with earth, and so present a solid resistance to shot.

Fascines are long faggots, or bundles of wood, intended to be used in the construction of field-works; when they are generally about ten feet in length and one foot in diameter. *Saucissons* are a larger description



FASCINE, AS CONSTRUCTED.

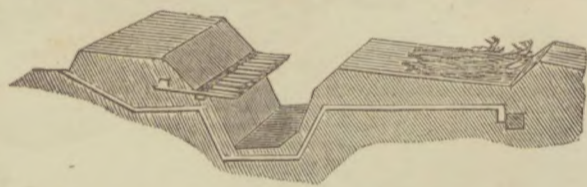
of fascine—being from 18 to 20 feet in length, and from 10 to 12 inches in diameter. They are used in batteries, to cover the interior of an *épaulement*. Our Engraving shows the method of making gabions on a bed of crossed sticks, like a *chevaux de frise*.

Sandbags are used in the construction of batteries in rocky situations, where earth is difficult to be procured. Sometimes they are employed to form the revetment itself, and sometimes are thrown into gabions for the purpose.

Stockade Revetments.—When the earth will not stand at a slope of one-third, the escarpments of important works should be made difficult to escalate. For this purpose, trunks of trees, planted vertically and touching each other, their ends sunk three or four feet, are very useful. When pierced for musketry, the structure so formed is called a *stockade*.

The obstacles, or contrivances, usually added to render the approaches to field-works, and the retention of them more difficult to the enemy, are as follows:—

Palisades—These are formed of the rough stems of young trees, or the halves of larger ones, firmly fixed to a beam four or five feet under ground. They form an excellent resisting medium when covered from cannon. They are often fixed in ditches, and, when inclined, as on the front slope of the ditch, as shown, in our Engraving, they are called



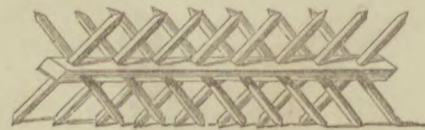
SECTION OF A FIELD-WORK, WITH PALISADES AND ABATTIS.

frises. In this mode of application, however, they are not much approved of. A good range of them on the escarp (nearly horizontal) served, in one instance in the Peninsular War, to place the scaling-ladders against, and to give the assailants a tolerable footing before reaching over the parapet.

Stockades are strong timber walls, or palisades touching each other, and loopholed for musketry. In India these defences have been much used, and their formidable character is well known to our troops.

Barrier Gates are used to close the entrances of field-works, and of course should be very massive, so as to resist any sudden attack.

Chevaux de Frise were formerly used to surround a work on the plain



CHEVAUX DE FRISE.

ground, about six paces from the ditch, and made fast together with chains or cramp irons; but as the use of cannon became more general, to which they could offer no effectual resistance, the practice has been generally discontinued. They are still used, however, sometimes in ditches and places covered from cannon.

Abattis.—A much better method, when they are to be procured near at hand, is to cut down large trees, and lay them entire on the ground, and their trunks partially buried in it, a few paces from the ditch. This is called an *abattis*. The branches of the trees must be well tangled, and presented towards the enemy, the trunk being next the work. Our Engraving represents an *abattis* so placed as to be covered from view and fire of the enemy by an advanced glacis. In forcing this *abattis* the assailant is exposed to the full fire of the parapet in the rear. Well-disposed *abattis* make formidable obstacles; and can only be effectually destroyed by fire.

Trous de Loup, or trapholes, are rows of pits, broad at the top, and going to a point at the bottom, like inverted hollow cones, made before a work, and with a strong palisade or stake fixed upright in the centre of each. They used to be made about six feet deep and eight or ten feet diameter at top; but upon some occasions during the Peninsular War, bold and active riflemen crept into them, and from them poured a destructive fire upon the defenders. To prevent this, they should be made either too deep, as eight feet; or too shallow, as two feet and a half. Trapholes are usually laid down in two or three rows; they should be arranged chequerwise, so as to prevent an enemy passing over them easily.

Fougasses, or small mines, are also very formidable obstacles; sunk in the proper situations, to be blown up on the approach of the assailant, if outside, or on the garrison leaving it, if within.

In a recent exploration of the ruins of Pompeii, a bath-room of vast dimensions has been discovered, exhibiting numerous ornaments and basso reliefs in a state of admirable preservation. The architecture of the edifice is of the same beautiful order as that of the *thermae* discovered at Pompeii nine years ago.



HAWKSTONE HOUSE, THE SEAT OF VISCOUNT HILL.

FESTIVITIES AT HAWKSTONE.

THE fine ancestral domain of Hawkstone, in Shropshire, has just been the scene of great festivity in commemoration of the Hon. Rowland Clegg Hill, eldest son of the Right Hon. Viscount Hill, and heir to the family title and estates, attaining his majority. This noble scion of an ancient race was born December 5th, 1833.

The day was ushered in by the ringing of bells in the churches of the various villages in the neighbourhood, and the firing of cannon from various quarters. A large flag floated, gaily from the top of the column in Hawkstone Park; and the Hall was also decked with a number of streamers, &c. From the latter place the noble Viscount and the Hon. R. C. Hill, with a select circle of friends, started to visit the various places on the estate where the festive gatherings were held, to receive congratulations. At each of the entrances to Hawkstone Park were large designs in variegated tapestry, with the coronet at the top; and immediately under, was the word "Welcome" in large letters. On passing under the mural archway near the grotto, other designs in variegated tapestry met the eye. In front of the Hall, the band of the North Shropshire Yeomanry were stationed in a tent, and received the visitors with favouritism.

The Hill family have well deserved this cordial demonstration. Descended from a long and honourable line of ancestry, they have shown the utmost interest in many a good cause. Sir Richard Hill, and the Rev. Rowland Hill, were long known amongst the most zealous of their day; and the military services of the generation which succeeded those two remarkable men will never be forgotten. The first Lord Hill was the right hand of the Duke of Wellington throughout the Peninsular War, and at the decisive victory of Waterloo, where his Lordship and four of his brothers were engaged. His father, the late Sir John Hill, received the congratulations of George IV., at a crowded levee, on having five sons in the war. Lord Hill filled the distinguished



THE HON. ROWLAND CLEGG HILL.

post of Commander of the Forces for fourteen years, with honour to himself and satisfaction to the Army. The only one of the five brothers before mentioned now surviving is Sir Robert Chambre Hill, who was Colonel of the Oxford Blues in several great victories during the Peninsular War and at Waterloo. The present Viscount Hill is the nephew of the first Lord Hill and has two sons, the Honourable Rowland Clegg Hill, whose majority was the object of the above festivities; and the Honourable Geoffrey Hill, who is just about to enter the regiment of the Blues, in which the name of his family is so well known and honoured.

The present Viscount is Lord Lieutenant of the county of Salop, and enjoys the unbounded esteem of all classes. This was most unequivocally manifested on the natal day of his son, when the heir and his family and friends made the tour of the Hawkstone domain to receive addresses and congratulations. It was a complete ovation for thirty miles; and the whole population came out to give them a hearty welcome. The whole family were welcomed by triumphal arches; oxen and sheep prepared for roasting were exhibited on the route; bands of music preceded the cortege, and the clergy presented congratulatory addresses. The young heir of Hawkstone acquitted himself extremely well in his replies, and spoke with much fluency and self-possession; Lord Hill also returned thanks with much feeling. Hawkstone House was the scene of great festivity on this occasion. Its romantic park is well known as one of the most striking in the kingdom. The company in the mansion, who were entertained on the 5th with a very handsome dinner, previously to a grand ball in the evening, included the following guests:—Lady Powis and two Ladies Herbert, the Earl of Powis, Earl and Countess Vane, Viscount and Viscountess Newport, Lord and Lady Cosmo Russell, Lord Forester, Lord Teignmouth, Colonel Forester, E. Lloyd, Esq., jun., the Rev. Edwin Sydney, the Rev. W. Blackley, the Hon. Hugh and Lady Sarah Cholmondeley, Mr. Gould, &c. More than a thousand persons, including all the rank of the neighbourhood,



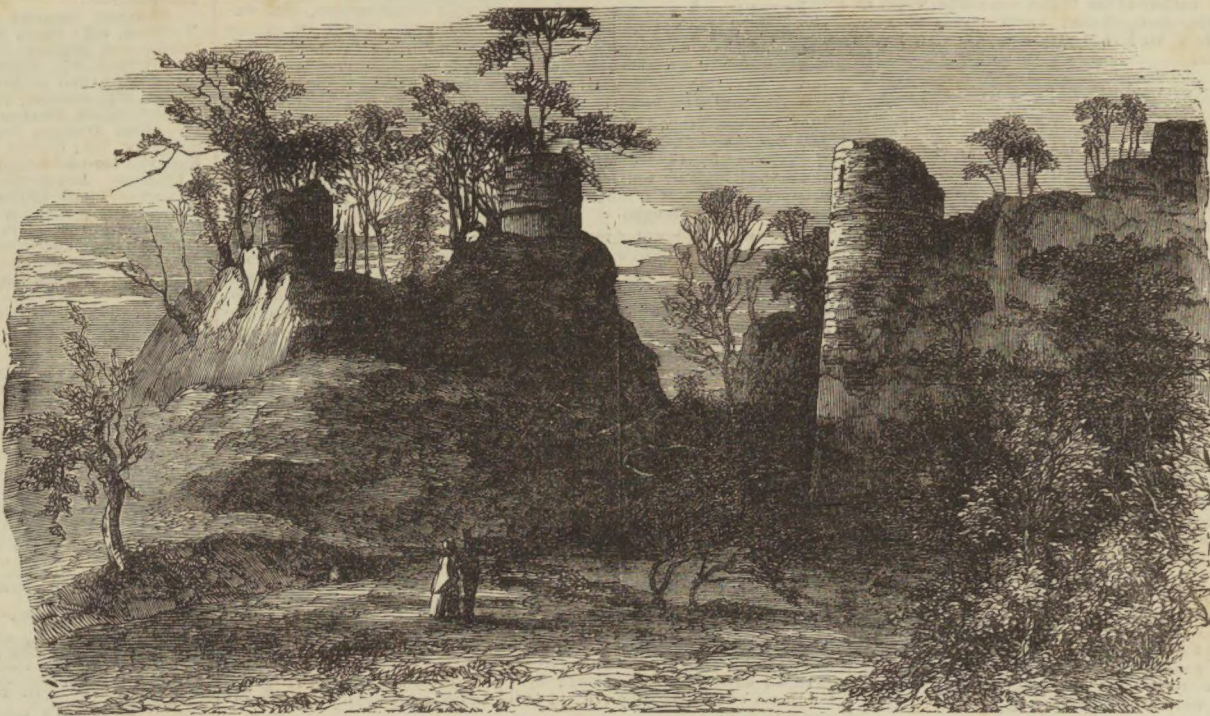
ENTRANCE TO HAWKSTONE PARK.

and many from long distances, attended in the evening, and the supper was magnificently served by the celebrated Gunter; and Tinney's band was engaged for the ball. The Earl of Powis, in an able speech, proposed the health of the Hon. Rowland Hill, and Lord and Lady Hill: both of which toasts were received with enthusiasm.

THE BALL.

The pavilion arranged for the *salon de danse* was erected on the terrace adjoining the Hall. The temporary apartment, 116 feet in length by 36 wide, was draped, tent-like, in scarlet and white. It was lighted by a profusion of chaste chandeliers and brackets, and the ball-room was decorated with flags and banners, the ensemble having a most picturesque and imposing effect. Messrs. Coote and Tinney's band, assisted by Mr. Walter C. Hay, of Shrewsbury, and a small staff, occupied a raised platform in the centre.

On supper being announced, the drape at one end of the apartment was drawn aside, and the party proceeded to an adjoining tent, 116 feet by 36. This apartment was also decorated with flags, and lit by 200 wax-lights, besides several central chandeliers. Three rows of tables were spread down the entire length of the place, to accommodate 350 guests. The



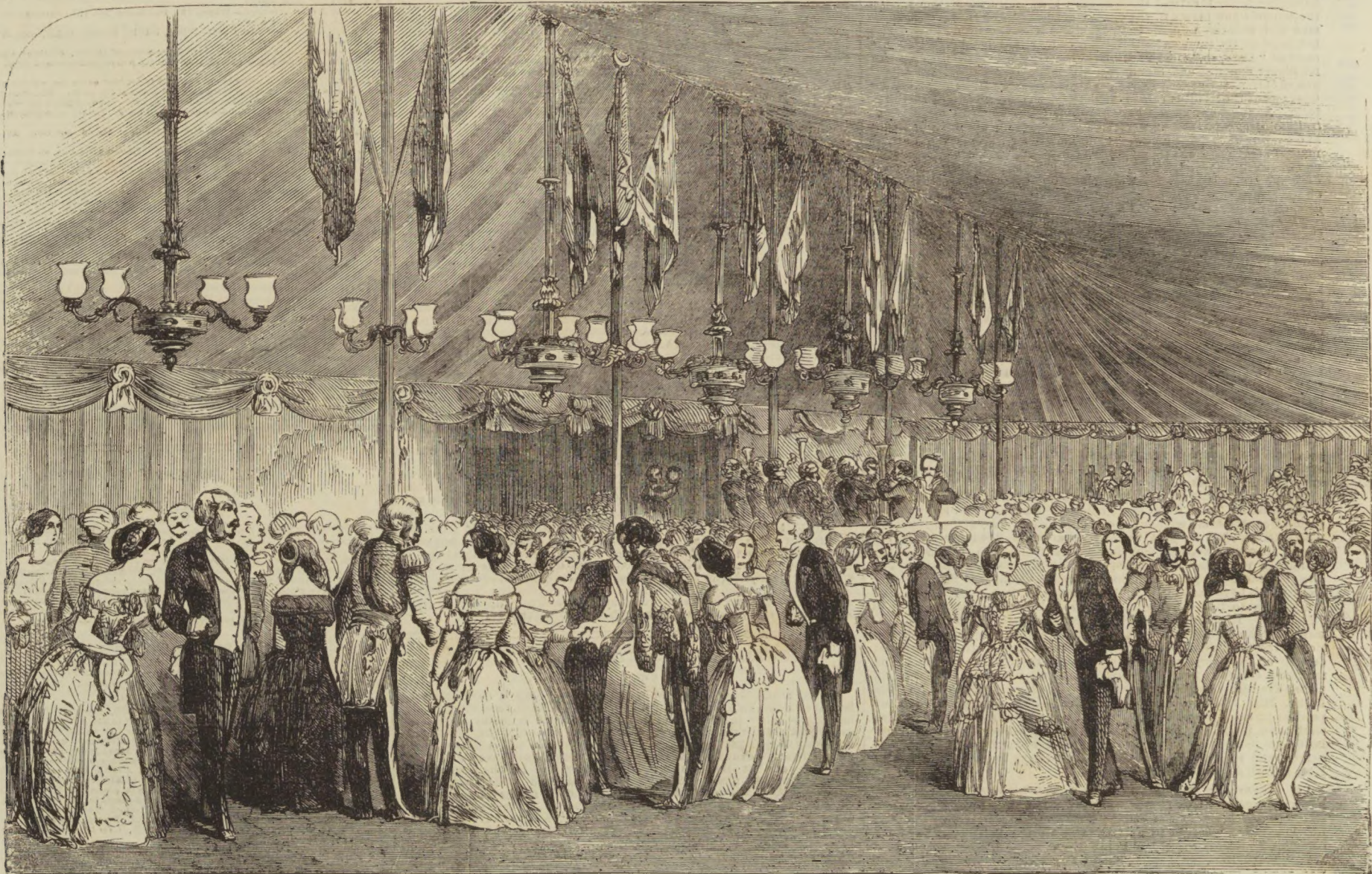
"THE RED CASTLE," HAWSTONE PARK.

tables were crowded with gold and silver candelabra, épergnes, vases, statuettes, &c., some of which contained fruits and flowers of the choicest description. In the centre stood a fountain, the basin being also filled with finely-grown camellias, chrysanthemums, &c.

Next evening the tenants and tradesmen and their friends were entertained in the same splendid way, and all passed off without a misadventure. The bounds of Sir Watkin W. Wynne added to the gay scene in the morning, and those who followed them through the unrivalled scenery of the park had a good opportunity of seeing it. The view of the Red Castle, from the summit of the Grotto Rock, is extremely striking. The remains of this ancient Castle, built of red sandstone, form a ruin of great interest. There are many curious legends respecting this Castle; but it was destroyed in the Civil Wars, when one of the Hill family was seized by the rebels. The dungeon still remains, and was well described by Dr. Johnson as "horrible profundity." This is probably the only part in England which contains such a splendid ruin of an ancient baronial castle, and also of a fine Roman encampment.

THE RED CASTLE.

Is one of the most attractive ruins in England. The decayed walls



BALL AT HAWSTONE, TO COMMEMORATE THE MAJORITY OF THE HON. ROWLAND CLEGG HILL.

and the hewn rocky sides are of great extent. You can reach the interior only through a winding passage blasted in the rock. Out of this tunnel you emerge into a picturesque alley of rock, with smooth high walls overarched with mountain-ashes. On the side you perceive a cavern. Climbing the rock, you reach the upper part of the ruin—a high roofless tower, in whose walls, fifteen feet thick, many trees have struck their roots, and in the interior of which is a well. The tower, and the rock on which it stands, look down from a giddy height, in a perfectly perpendicular line, upon the valley, in which the huge trees appear like copeswood.

THE GROTTA.

Out of a hanging wood of venerable beech-trees, crowned by a thicket of black firs, rises the celebrated "Grotto Rock," on whose caverns Sir Richard Hill expended much of his ingenuity. Its summit is reached by a long winding path in the steep wood, which conduces to the door of a dark passage in the rock, opening into a vaulted chamber incrustated with shells and minerals.

On Thursday four hundred labourers, and the same number of school children, with some seven or eight hundred women, were entertained with dinner and tea at the Hall; and the day was concluded with a grand display of fireworks. The servants at Hawstone had a ball and supper on Friday, to which they were permitted to invite their friends.

In the midst of these distinguished entertainments the



THE GROTTA, IN HAWSTONE PARK.

poor were amply cared for, and the children of the schools were also invited, and each one presented with a Bible by the excellent Viscountess. In short, this has been one of the most remarkable celebrations of a majority, perhaps, ever known, and has most unequivocally shown that when a nobleman perpetually consults the welfare of all around him he is sure to reap his high reward. The manifestations of regard on this occasion were unmistakable, and the cheers which issue from the heart fall far differently on the ear from the mere complimentary sounds of common festive occasions. We sincerely wish this benevolent and distinguished family the happiness they so well deserve and endeavour to extend to all within reach of their influence.

A titled foreigner, recording some years ago his impression of Hawstone, says—"Though I felt yesterday perfectly *blasé* of park, and thought I could never take any interest in them again, I am quite of another mind to-day, and must in some respects give Hawstone the preference over all I have seen. It is not art, nor magnificence, nor aristocratic splendour, but nature alone, to which it is indebted for this pre-eminence; and in such a degree that, were I gifted with the power of adding to its beauties, I should ask, What can I add?" From the lofty column erected to the memory of a distinguished ancestor of the Hills, the eye can wander at pleasure over fifteen counties, or rest upon the rocks and woods, mingled with the richest pasturage imme-

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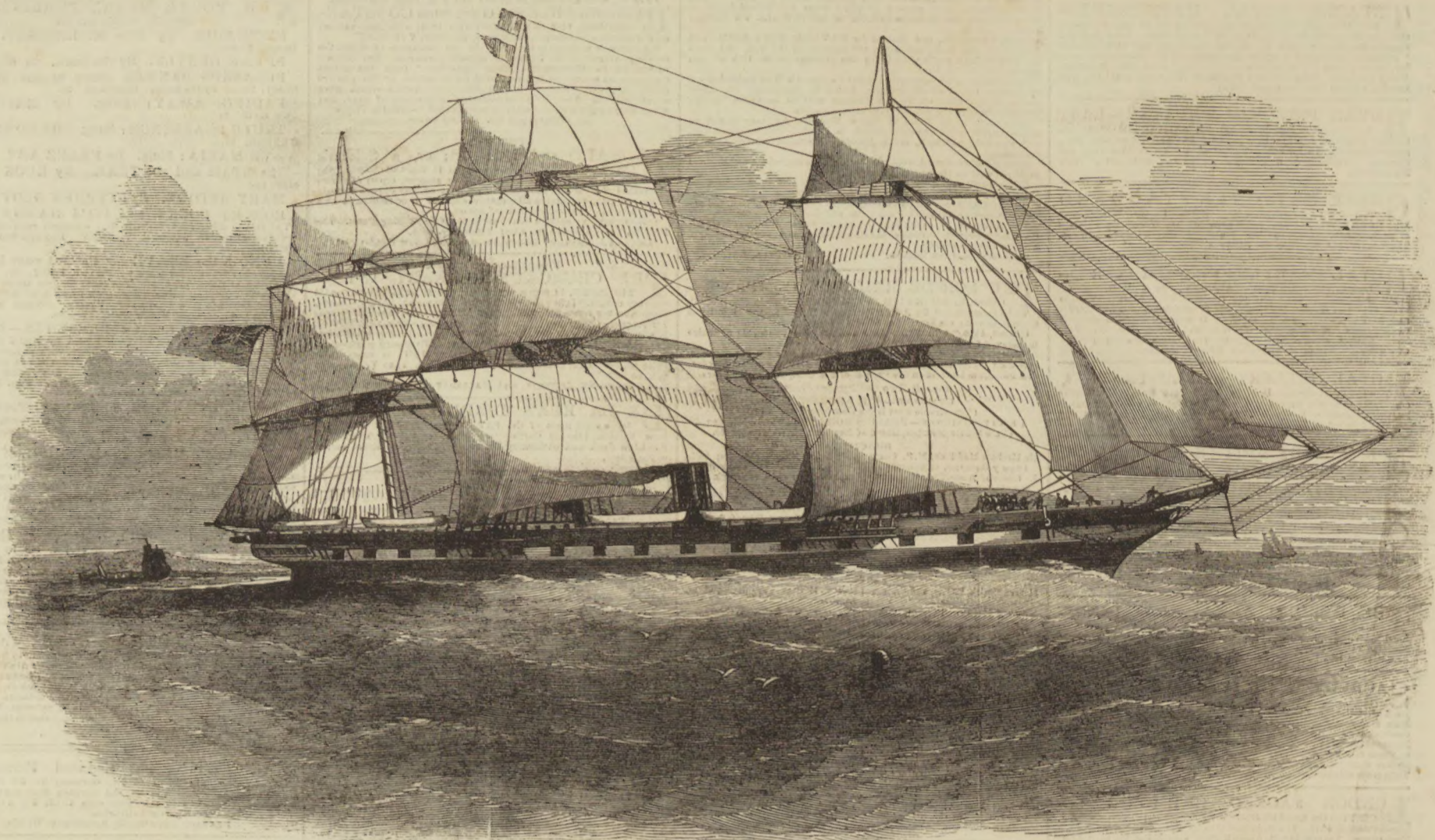
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THE SCREW STEAM-SHIP "PRINCE," WRECKED OFF BALACLAVA HARBOUR.

LOSS OF THE STEAM SHIP "PRINCE."

THE following statement of the loss of this vessel, on the 14th ult., at 9h. 3m. a.m., about three cables' length eastward of the entrance to Balacava Harbour, has just been received:—

While lying at anchor in 25 fathoms water, with two anchors down, about half a mile from the shore, the wind blowing a terrific hurricane from the southward and westward, No. 16 Transport fouled us, doing us some damage; and we were obliged to cut away all masts. About 9h. a.m. the port cable parted (all hands being on deck at the time); endeavoured to steam ahead; but, on account of some of the wreck being foul of the screw, were unable to do so. About five minutes afterwards the starboard cable parted, and the ship drifted in rapidly towards the rocks.

Captain Goodall, who had been on deck from the commencement of the gale, called all hands aft, and, with Captain Baynton, R.N., Transport Agent, pulled off their coats, Captain Goodall, at the same time, saying, "Now, my lads, I've done the best I can for you; every man must try and save himself."

About 9.15 a.m. the ship touched the rocks, and, owing to the great force of wind and severe sea setting in at that time, in fifteen minutes after not a vestige of her was to be seen. After thumping about five or six times the ship broke in halves about amidships, and I jumped out of the mizen chains on part of the wreck, and, being about ten minutes in the water, was washed ashore.

I did not see Captain Baynton or Captain Goodall after the ship struck. Every person seemed very cool and collected under such awful circumstances.

After remaining on the rocks about five hours, with six of the crew of the *Prince*, we were hauled up by parties from the *Medway*, *Trent*, *Tonning*, and *Harbinger* (who had been engaged all day with life-buoys and lines, endeavouring to save lives) over an almost perpendicular cliff, of about 250 feet in height.

Out of upwards of thirty vessels anchored in this place, only three rode the gale out with masts standing, and I believe about ten were lost entirely.

I have omitted to mention the praiseworthy conduct of some men in a life-boat (which I have since learned to be the *Avon's*, under the charge

of Mr. Hammond, second officer of that vessel), who went out in the severe part of the gale to render assistance.

H. G. F. COTGRAVE,

Late Midshipman G. S. S. Company's steamer *Prince*.

A letter from Captain T. S. Beal, of the screw steam-ship *Harbinger*, dated November 17th, says:—

I have Mr. Cotgrave and four of the men from the *Prince* now on board; their names are Parker, Pilcher, Hall, and Macdonald. The *Harbinger* was fortunately in the harbour, but has suffered very much. Nearly every ship broke adrift, and all are injured more or less. I have lost figure-head, catheads, fore-castle rails, poop ditto, side-ladders; and, indeed, all outside work is much chafed and broken. Our hull and machinery are, however, perfect, as also our masts and yards.

THE WRECK OF THE STEAMER "NILE."

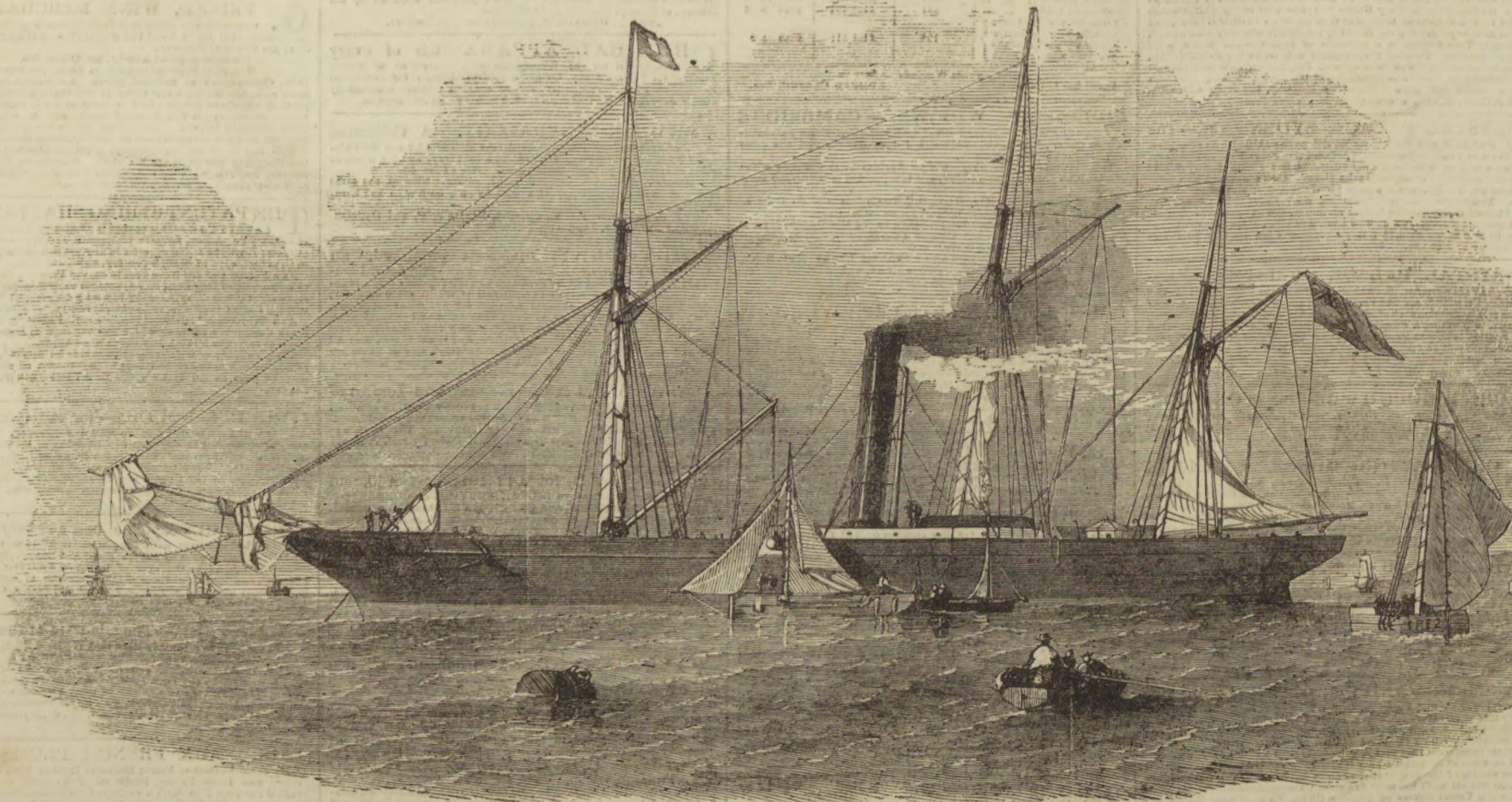
THE *Nile*, iron screw-steamer, of 700 tons and 200-horse power, one of the British and Irish Steam Company's vessels, was lost on the night of Thursday, the 30th ult., in the neighbourhood of Godrevy Point, a headland which forms the eastern boundary of St Ives Bay. On her last voyage to London the *Nile* had the misfortune to run down a vessel laden with stone, just off the Breakwater at Plymouth, and the late severe weather had made her trips rather irregular. She left Penzance last on Saturday, the 25th, and arrived at Liverpool on Sunday, the 26th ult., whence she departed on her return voyage on Tuesday evening, about six o'clock. Fortunately, as it has transpired, several of her passengers for Penzance and neighbourhood were left behind at the Nelson Docks. On Tuesday night she must have encountered severe weather; but as she was seen on Thursday morning by the *Sylph*, Cork and London steamer, in the North Channel, and in a right course for the Land's End, there is no reason to apprehend that the gale which

then blew damaged either her hull or machinery. It is now beyond all doubt, however, that, from causes which as yet are purely conjectural, she was some eighteen or twenty miles out of her reckoning, and that, in a tempestuous sea and thick weather, she ran on a dangerous reef of rocks, called "The Stones," stretching out from Godrevy Point, and soon afterwards sank with all hands. Early on Friday morning some empty porter-barrels and a wine-cask were picked up on the adjacent coast. This caused the Coast-guard force and the inhabitants to be on the look-out, and soon all surmises as to the name of the unfortunate vessel were set at rest by the discovery of a small box at the back of Portreath-quay, containing papers.

From the direction in which the wreck was drifting on Friday and Saturday, it was thought that the steamer struck on the ridge of rocks at the distance of a mile or more from Godrevy Island, going at the time at her usual speed, and, having been backed off into 12 or 14 fathoms of water, foundered. Even on Saturday, by which time the wind had considerably moderated, no boat durst venture off to the scene of the wreck; so that, if the crew succeeded in taking to their boats, they only prolonged their existence for a brief period.

The *Nile* was built about five years since, at Greenock; and Captain Moppett had the reputation of being a careful and skilful navigator, indefatigable in the discharge of his duties, and most attentive to his passengers. The steamer had on board a heavy and very valuable cargo—the value of this and the boat itself has been roughly estimated at from £40,000 to £50,000.

Among many narrow chances which have been the topic of conversation is that of a young man named Strick, of Newlyn. His luggage was on board the *Nile*, but he quitted her for a few minutes to have "a pint" with a friend. The conversation was prolonged, and on returning to the docks the steamer had sailed. Doubtless the belated voyager imprecated his unlucky stars. He took steamer to Bristol, and thence to Hayle; on arriving a which place the news awaited him that he had lost his luggage, but saved his life.



"THE NILE" SCREW STEAM-SHIP, WRECKED OFF GODREVY POINT.